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PART I.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND MOROCCO.

5

1878-85.

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Correspondence respecting Commercial Negotiations between Great Britain and Morocco: 1878-85.

Part I.

No. 1.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Earl of Derby.—(*Received February* 18.)

(No. 15.)

My Lord, *Tangier, February* 8, 1878.

ACCORDING to the tenour of the instructions I have received from your Lordship's predecessors, I am directed to visit from time to time the Moorish Court. As three years have elapsed since I was sent on a mission to the Sultan, I think it desirable that I should visit the Moorish Court this spring.

On the arrival of Cid Mohammed Bargash, who is daily expected here, a meeting will be held by the foreign Representatives, with the view of communicating the instructions they may have received from their respective Governments on the subject of protection.

If the suggestions I had made respecting taxation and the treatment of commercial native agents in the interior are agreed to by my colleagues, it will be desirable that I should have an opportunity of communicating direct with the Sultan on that subject, and to impress upon His Majesty that his subjects have hitherto sought foreign protection in order to shield themselves from the arbitrary acts of his Governors and Sheikhs and an unjust system of taxation and imposts, and therefore to urge that reforms be introduced into the system of government if His Majesty desires to prevent a return to protection and to improve the status of his subjects.

Cid Mohammed Bargash is timid and vacillating, and will take no decisive step even on the most trifling questions without a reference to the Court for instructions, and rarely any beneficial results by such references is obtained unless I support his representations by my private communications to the Prime Minister.

The German Minister, M. Weber, has received instructions from Berlin to conclude a general Treaty, and also a Commercial Convention, with Morocco.

He has consulted me, confidentially, on various occasions with reference to the proposed negotiation, which, I believe, will be commenced when Cid Mohammed Bargash arrives.

I understand that M. Weber will endeavour to induce this Government to modify the restrictions and reduce the duties imposed upon various articles of exportation.

I have told M. Weber that I will support his representations.

In the XIVth Article of the Convention of Commerce of 1857 between Great Britain and Morocco, "it is agreed that at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of the ratification of that Convention, either of the Contracting Parties shall have the right of call upon the other to enter upon the revision of the same," the Convention remaining in force until a new Convention is concluded.

It appears to me that the present moment would be favourable for endeavouring to induce the Sultan to relax some of the restrictions imposed upon trade, and which tend to check the development of the resources of this country, and that I should be authorized, therefore, by your Lordship, to support the action of the German Minister, with the view of obtaining concessions which would be advantageous to commerce, without seeking for any special privilege and advantage either for British or German trade and navigation.

My presence at the Court would give me an opportunity of communicating in person with the Sultan and his Prime Minister, which would be preferable to treating with

Cid Mohammed Bargash, whose powers as Minister are very limited, and who, as I have already observed, is a man of no decision.

In making these suggestions, it is my duty to add that I am far from being sanguine that success would attend my efforts to induce the Sultan to listen to the counsels I may have to offer, either as regards commerce or the misgovernment of the country, especially as the majority of His Majesty's advisers, Cid Moosa Ben Ahmed included, are opposed to the introduction of liberal measures, or to alter a system which gives them greater pecuniary advantages than the salaries of any Minister of State in Europe.

Should your Lordship approve of my visit to the Court, I have to suggest that I should be furnished with a Queen's letter making known to His Majesty the object of my mission, and pointing out that the ties of friendship between the two Governments and people would be drawn closer by facilitating a more active exchange of the products of the two countries.

Should your Lordship accede to my suggestions, I should propose to leave Tangier for the Court about the month of April, so as to avoid the summer months, and as I would have to make preparations for the journey, and to give also timely notice to the Sultan, I have to request that a telegram, or an early reply, be sent me.

The average expenditure in past missions has amounted to about 380*l.*; on the present occasion, as I go to the more distant Court of Morocco, the expenditure may exceed this amount by 100*l.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 2.

The Earl of Derby to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 1. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, February 28, 1878.

Sir,

WITH reference to that part of your despatch No. 15 of the 8th instant which relates to commercial questions, I have to inform you that I should be glad to receive a more definite statement as to the changes which you think it desirable to make in the existing Commercial Treaty between this country and Morocco before I supply you with instructions to propose its revision to the Moorish Government.

I have to request that you will state which Articles of the Treaty you think should be altered; the precise terms of the alterations you wish to effect; and your opinion as to the probability of the Moorish Government being willing to accept such proposals, and as to the benefit which, if carried into effect, these alterations of the existing Treaty would confer on British interests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 3.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Earl of Derby.—(*Received April* 15.)

(No. 6. Commercial.)

Tangier, March 26, 1878.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 1, Commercial, of the 28th February, directing me to give your Lordship a definite statement as to the changes which I may think it advisable to make in the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco of 1856.

The accompanying Memorandum contains the alterations I have to propose in the Articles of the Convention, with explanatory notes.

I annex—

1. Lists of articles which were not inserted in Tariff of 1856, but which are now exported.

2. Articles not mentioned in the Tariff, but which it is proposed should be exported.

I propose that the Moorish Government be advised to insert all these articles into a new Tariff, and that the duties be mentioned in Spanish or French coins, as well as Moorish coin, so as to establish the exchange on the payment of duties by merchants in foreign coin.

3. List of articles prohibited, but which were formerly exported.

Bones were formerly exported in large quantities, but a prohibition was imposed in consequence of the Government discovering that European traders employed Jews and others to collect human bones from the Mahommedan cemeteries. I should not have believed this statement to be true had I not seen women and children collecting bones from the cemetery near Tangier.

The Moors bury very superficially; the watercourses, formed by heavy rains, passing near graves, frequently leave the bones of the dead exposed.

The Moorish Government might be induced, perhaps, to allow the exportation of bones, on condition that no collection should take place except by Mahommedans selected for that purpose, the lots selected to be sold by public auction to the highest bidder.

The working of mines and exportation of minerals are prohibited. There is great mineral wealth in Morocco—coal, iron, copper, lead, gold, antimony, manganese, sulphur, &c.

The Moorish Government granted permission, some years ago, to a French Company to work copper and antimony mines, but claims of all kinds were brought against the Moorish Government, which, after vexatious questions, were ultimately paid, and the Moorish Government has since refused to entertain propositions for developing the mineral resources of Morocco.

The Sultan might be advised to adopt measures for working the valuable mines in Morocco and exporting minerals without exposing himself to the unjust claims of foreign subjects.

4. List of articles mentioned in Article II of Convention as monopolies of the Government.

With regard to bark and cork, these articles were formerly exported in large quantities; but as the trees were stripped of the bark without care or regard for the preservation of the tree, large forests have been destroyed. The exportation of cork and bark was therefore prohibited.

The Moorish Government might possibly be induced to allow the exportation of these articles, on the condition of their retaining the monopoly of the sale of cork and bark, the forests being Government property. In such case the Sultan should be advised to appoint overseers of the forests, to prevent the destruction of the trees through ignorance or carelessness of persons employed to take cork or bark.

5. List of articles which are in the Tariff, but are not exported.

The Moorish Government have hitherto prohibited the exportation of domestic animals unless special licences are granted, and therefore no encouragement is given to the breeding of horses, &c. The present Sultan might be induced to relax existing restrictions.

The following Royal grants have been made by the Sultan to foreign Governments for the exportation of oxen at the rate of 5 Spanish dollars per head: Great Britain, 6,000 head annually; France, 6,000 head annually; Spain, 6,000 head annually.

I understand also that a special grant of 6,000 head has been made to the Italian Government, and a like number to the Portuguese Government, at a duty of 5 Spanish dollars a-head. These latter grants are not annual.

Though these grants are made solely to foreign Governments for the use of their troops, I have reason to know that private individuals have occasionally obtained permission either from foreign Governments or their Representatives here to make use of these special licences as a private speculation.

The Moorish Government might be advised to allow the exportation of oxen and other domestic animals on the payment of a fixed duty.

I annex copies and translations of Articles in the Spanish Treaty with Morocco of 1861 regarding anchorage and other port dues, and on the tenure of property, which are now more advantageous than the Articles of similar purport in the British Treaty, I suggest that Articles as favourable as those with Spain should be inserted in an amended Convention.

I have submitted my opinions on these Articles in the accompanying Memorandum.

With regard to that passage in your Lordship's despatch where I am directed to give my opinion as to the probability of the Moorish Government accepting the proposals that might be made to them for relaxing existing restrictions, I beg to repeat that I fear the Sultan's present advisers are opposed to liberal measures which would encourage the advent to this country and residence of Europeans, especially so long as the existing abuses in irregular protection continue; but, on the other hand, the expenditure of the Government has increased so materially since the introduction of disciplined forces and

the purchase of heavy guns for the fortresses, that they will have to devise means and ways of increasing the revenue, and may therefore be more disposed to listen to measures which would hold out a prospect of improving the customs receipts.

With regard to my being directed to express an opinion on the benefit which the proposed alterations might confer on British interests, I fear I should only encroach on your Lordship's time, after the explanations I have given, if I was to offer any further observations. The trade of this country would naturally be benefited if there was a greater variety of articles exported and existing restrictions removed.

If I visit the Moorish Court, I should not attempt to conclude there and then the precise terms of each article, or to fix the duties, for the dilatory habits of Moorish Ministers might cause the negotiation to draw on for months; but I would endeavour to induce this Government to agree generally to admit that restrictions on trade should be relaxed, and that the Convention be altered, and that full powers should be given to Cid Mohammed Bargash or other Plenipotentiary to discuss and arrange the Tariff and wording of articles.

Such an understanding would enable me to consult with intelligent merchants regarding the duties to be imposed and other matters affecting trade with this country.

With regard to the question of irregular protection, I do not foresee any immediate prospect of its abolition from the language which is generally held by those colleagues who declare that they have not yet received their final instructions; but, whatever may be the final decision of foreign Governments on this subject, I think it is desirable that my visit to the Sultan should be postponed until some decision is arrived at, in order that I may endeavour to come to a clear understanding with the Sultan and his Ministers regarding the treatment of the native agents of British merchants, and the payment of a fixed Tariff of taxes, by persons employed by them in agriculture, &c., and that such agents should not be exposed to the tyrannical and arbitrary action of Moorish Governors or other authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Memorandum regarding proposed Alterations in and Additions to Articles of Convention of Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco of 1856.

Article II. The word "leeches" to be withdrawn, as there is no longer a monopoly of this article.

Art. III. If an arrangement is come to with the foreign Representatives at Tangier regarding gate taxes upon beasts of burden belonging to Moorish subjects as well as foreign subjects, and a reasonable Tariff is fixed with this Government, the Undersigned suggests that a stipulation to that effect be added to Article III.

The Undersigned will not repeat in this Memorandum the arguments he has brought forward in his despatch,* and the language he has held at the meetings of the foreign Representatives which are referred to in the margin.

Art. IV. If the propositions made by the Undersigned to the foreign Representatives in the *procès-verbal* of the meetings held on the 18th July† regarding the treatment of native agents employed by British or foreign subjects for the purchase and sale of merchandize are accepted, the Undersigned has to suggest that a paragraph specifying the arrangements that may be entered into regarding the treatment of these agents be introduced into Article IV.

Art. VII. The Moorish Government would be disinclined to lower any duties on the exports, but an attempt might be made to induce them to do so.

The 10 per cent. duty on imports is admitted to be reasonable. The 10 per cent. duty, however, on silk manufactures, has given rise to much smuggling, as this article is of small bulk compared to its value, and it is introduced by fraud in various ways. Though a considerable quantity of silk manufactures is imported into Morocco, there are very insignificant entries in the custom-house of duties. If the duties were reduced to 5 per cent. on silks and other articles, which are not of a bulky character and are easily

* See paragraph in Sir J. H. Drummond Hay's despatch No. 31, Commercial, of August 4, 1873, and *procès-verbal* of language held by him to foreign Representatives on July 27, 1877, inclosed in despatch No. 76 of August 18, 1877.—J. H. D. H.

† Inclosed in despatch No. 76 of August 16, 1877.

smuggled, the Moorish Government might be shown that their customs revenues would be benefited by such reductions.

The importation and sale of sulphur and saltpetre, which are considered ammunitions of war, are Government monopolies, much smuggling takes place in these articles. The Moorish Government would benefit their revenues if the monopoly of these articles was abolished.

Art. X. Article XLI in the Treaty between Spain and Morocco is more favourable than Article X of the British Convention.

The Undersigned incloses a copy and translation, and suggests that it be inserted instead of Article X, adding such stipulations, however, of the latter which may be considered necessary.

Art. XI. It is very desirable that steam-launches should be introduced for towing barges or disembarking merchandize from vessels, especially at ports like Laraiche and Rabat, where there are bars, and vessels are frequently detained in consequence of the bars being passable only for short periods. The Moorish rowing-barges work very slowly, and vessels suffer therefore much demurrage, especially in winter at the ports on the western coast exposed to the heavy swell of the Atlantic. This innovation would entail an additional expense, which the Moorish Government might not be disposed to incur, unless they were assured that the masters of vessels would be required to pay for the use of steam-launches higher charges than are fixed in Article XI.

Before any arrangement was come to, the opinion of shippers could be obtained whether they would be willing to pay for the facilities afforded by steam-launches.

Merchants at Laraiche have expressed their willingness to pay for steam-launches.

It would be necessary also to come to an understanding with other foreign Representatives before a final arrangement was come to with the Moorish Government, as the former might otherwise be disposed to insist that the charges for launches of all descriptions should be the same as are stipulated in prior Treaties.

The Undersigned would suggest also that a paragraph be inserted with the view of encouraging the Moorish Government to build piers, breakwaters, or to establish lights, by admitting that extra port dues would be paid for such improvements, on condition of a previous understanding being come to as to the rates to be paid by shipping for such works when completed.

Article V of the Spanish Treaty regarding the right of tenure of property by Spanish subjects was a concession obtained by Spain after the war, and no such right of holding property is mentioned in Article IV of the General Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco of 1856.

The Undersigned incloses a translation, and proposes that a similar Article be inserted in a new Convention.

Should an understanding be come to with foreign Governments regarding the payment of taxes by British and foreign subjects engaged in agricultural pursuits a Tariff of taxes would have to be arranged,* and it would be advisable to introduce an Article in the Convention containing the Tariff and manner in which such taxes are to be levied.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Copies and Translations of Articles in Spanish Treaty proposed to be inserted in New Convention between Great Britain and Morocco.

ARTICULO V.

Cuando los Españoles compren en el imperio de Marruecos, con permisio de las autoridades, casas, almacenes, ó terrenos, podrán disponer libremente de su propiedad, en uso de su dominio, sin que nadie se lo estorbe.

Siempre que alquilen casas ó almacenes por tiempo y precio determinados, no se les subiran los arrendamientos durante aquel, ni desalojará de ellas.

ARTICLE V.

When Spaniards purchase in Morocco, with the permission of the authorities, houses, stores, or land, they may dispose freely of their property, according to their right, without hindrance from any one.

Whenever they may hire houses or shops for a fixed time, and at a fixed rent, the rent may not be raised, nor can the tenants be ejected during the term fixed.

* See *procès-verbal* of July 18, 1877, inclosed in despatch No. 76 of August 16, 1877.—J. H. D. H.

ARTICULO XXXIX.

La exaccion en los puertos de Marruecos del derecho de anclage o fondeadero para las embarcaciones mercantes Españolas será desde 20 á 80 rs. vn. por cada una segun su clase y toneladas, con arreglo á la siguiente:—

TARIFA de los Derechos de Anclage ó Fondeadero.

	Rs. vn.
Hasta 50 toneladas	20
Desde 50 á 100	40
„ 100 á 150	60
„ 150 en adelante	80

ARTICULO LX.

No se exigira á los buques Españoles en los puertos de Marruecos derecho alguno de pilotage, capitania de puertos, &c., si no los que se exijan á los nacionales ó á los de la nacion mas favorecida.

En todo caso estos derechos no podrán exceder de los que se expresan en las Tarifas:—

Pilotage obligatorio en Rabat y Laraiche:

	Cents de real.
Por cada tonelada de los buques á su entrada en el puerto	80
A su salida	80

Pilotage fácultativo ó á voluntad de los capitanes en los puertos de Marruecos:

	Cents de real.
Por cada tonelada de los buques á su entrada	40
A su salida	40

Los derechos de Capitania de Puerto no excederán nunca de 8 rs. vn. por buque, cualquiera que sea su porte.

Estos derechos, como todas los demas, serán los mismos en todos los puertos del Imperio.

ARTICLE XXXIX.

The anchorage duty exacted in Moorish ports for Spanish merchant-vessels shall be from 20 to 80 reals vellon for each vessel, according to its class and tonnage, as follows:—

TARIFF of Anchorage Dues.

	Rs. vn.
Up to 50 tons..	20
From 50 to 100	40
„ 100 to 150	60
„ 150 and upwards	80

ARTICLE LX.

No pilot dues or Port Office dues, &c., shall be exacted from Spanish vessels in Moorish ports unless they be exacted from Moorish subjects, or the subjects of the most favoured nations.

In any case, these dues may not exceed those mentioned in the following Tariff:—

Obligatory pilotage in Rabat and Laraiche:

	Rs. vn.
For every ton of vessels on entering the port	80
Ditto, ditto, leaving	80

Optional pilotage, or at the option of masters in Moorish ports:

	Cents of real.
For every ton of vessel on entry ..	40
Ditto, ditto, on leaving	40

Port Office dues shall in no case exceed 8 reals vellon for a vessel of whatever size.

These dues, as well as all the others, shall be the same in all the ports of the Empire.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

LIST of Articles Tariffed subsequent to the British Treaty.

		Ounces.	Reals vellon.
Aniseed	Per— Cwt.	..	..
Biscuits	„	20	..
Blankets	Each	8	..
Carpets—			
Fine	„	According to quality.	
Ordinary	„	20	..
Cheese	Lb.	½	..
Cord of palmetto	100 bundles.	25	..
El jorf	Cwt.	20	..
Fasoj (gum)	„	20	..
Hnicks	Each	10	..
Hares	„	3	..
Holba (fenugreek)	Cwt.	20	..
Jellabs	Each	5	..
Kermes (dye)	Cwt.	6	..
Lentils	„	10	..
Linseeds	„	..	..
Orchilla	„	..	15
Ostrich eggs	Each	1	..
Leather bags	„	1½	..
Parings of hides for making glue	Cwt.	10	..
Partridges	Each	3	..
Pears	Cwt.	20	..
Rabbits	Each	1½	..
Rags	Cwt.	10	..
Rose leaves	„	20	..
Sanush	„	20	..
Sesame	„	20	..
Sieves	100	12½	..
Sparto grass	Cwt.	8	..
Stirrups	Pair	10	..
Tents, hair and palmetto	Each	5	..
Tortoises	100	11	..
Trays—			
Brass, chased	Lb.	1	..
„ plain	„	2	..
Tripes	Cwt.	20	..
Walnuts	„	20	..
Woollen thread	*Ad valorem*	30 per cent.	
„ socks	Pair	1	..
Zerguina (dye)	Cwt.	12	..

LIST of Articles which are not in the Tariff, but which it is proposed should be exported.

Butter.	Onions.
Canes.	Reef and arar wood.
Charcoal.	Salt fish.
Firewood.	Salted beef.
Honey.	Sumach ("mergatta").
Palmetto.	Straw.
Osier.	Soap.

LIST of Articles prohibited, but which were formerly exported.

Bones.
Minerals.

LIST of Articles mentioned in Article II of Convention as Monopolies of the Government.

Bark.
Cork.

LIST of Articles which are in the Tariff, but are not exported.

Barley.	Mules.
Goats.	Sheep.
Flour.	Wheat.
Donkeys.	Oxen.*

* Oxen is not mentioned in the Tariff, and are only exported under special licences from the Sultan granted to foreign Governments.

No. 4.

Memorandum by Mr. Kennedy.

SIR J. HAY proposed last February that on the occasion of a visit which he was about to make to the Moorish Court, he should enter into communication with the Moorish Government with the view to conclude a new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco.

No representations on the subject having been received from traders or other persons interested, Sir J. Hay was instructed to report more definitely as to the changes which he thought it desirable to make in the existing Treaty; as to the probability of the Moorish Government being willing to entertain the proposals which he recommended; and as to the benefit which British interests were likely to derive from this revision of the Commercial Treaty of 1856.

The accompanying despatch has now been received in reply.

It appears, shortly, that Sir J. Hay wants to obtain:

1. Certain alterations of Tariff.
2. Permission for working mines.
3. Insertion in the new English Treaty of certain provisions as to anchorage and port dues, and tenure of land.

Sir J. Hay does not give a very encouraging prospect of the assent of the Moorish Government to make a new Treaty; and in answer to the last part of the instruction to him, he in effect refers to the explanation given of the objects in view in the proposed negotiation as a sufficient answer to the inquiry as to the probable benefit to British trade.

It is to be observed that Morocco is very backward as regards all economic matters. The Government does not encourage foreign traders or commerce, and on the least occasion prohibits the exportation of different kinds of goods. It must, however, be stated that foreign adventurers abound; and that many of the foreign Representatives seem to lend themselves to transactions of doubtful character, and to support claims the justice of which is questionable, to say the least.

Moreover, from newspaper reports, the present season in Morocco would seem to be unfavourable as regards agricultural produce.

As regards these several suggestions of Sir J. Hay, it would be advisable to obtain all possible improvements of Tariff, while it would not be expedient to press points, such as the exportation of bones, likely to offend the prejudices or feelings of the Government and people.

It would also be advisable to obtain facilities for working mines, but to provide safeguards both for the Government and for the persons who received permission to work them.

In the event of a new Treaty being concluded, it would, of course, be desirable to take into it any provisions of Treaties subsequent to the English Treaty of 1856 which are either more complete or more definite. But as matter of fact, all the advantages of the Spanish Treaty would seem to be enjoyed by this country under most-favoured-nation stipulations.

As Sir J. Hay's journey to Fez has been put off until next autumn or next spring, and as he does not contemplate any action until he goes to Fez, the matter does not press. If the view of the case given in this Memorandum is approved an instruction to the above effect might be prepared, in communication with the Treaty Department, with regard to any observations which Mr. March may have to offer.

The subject of "Irregular Protection" is not adverted to, as it is a matter which, when it comes to be dealt with, will not be treated by the Commercial Department, but by the Political.

(Signed) C. M. KENNEDY.

Foreign Office, April 18, 1878.

It is of course very desirable that we should get the best possible Treaty, but I expect that this move will come to nothing.

If, however, any one can do good in the matter it is Sir J. D. Hay.

T. V. L.

Foreign Office, April 18, 1878.

No. 5.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 3. Commercial.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 30, 1878.

I HAVE had under my consideration your despatch No. 6, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, relative to the new Commercial Treaty which you recommend should be negotiated between this country and Morocco.

I have to state, in reply, that I concur generally in your suggestions on the subject. As regards matters of Tariff, it is advisable, in the interests of Morocco, as well as for the promotion of foreign trade, to obtain all improvements which it may be possible to induce the Moorish Government to adopt. But it would not be expedient to press points, such as the exportation of bones, likely to offend the prejudices or feelings of the Government and people of the country. As regards mines, it would be advisable to obtain facilities for the development of the mineral resources of Morocco. Care should be taken to provide stipulations to protect the interests of persons who may engage in these undertakings and to prevent monopolies; and, on the other hand, Her Majesty's Government will not object to measures which may be necessary to protect the interests of the Moorish Government.

In the event of a new Commercial Treaty being negotiated, it will naturally be desirable to introduce into it any provisions contained in Treaties between Morocco and other Powers which may be more complete or more definite than the like provisions in the British Convention of the 9th December, 1856; and, further, any other stipulations which may be expedient in order to place the commercial relations between Great Britain and Morocco on the best possible footing.

I am unable, in the present position of this question, to supply you with more definite instructions; but if you desire, before proceeding to Fez, to refer any other points to me, I shall be ready to consider them. At the same time, I have to observe that it may be necessary to act with caution in this negotiation. The Commercial Convention of the 9th December, 1856, appears, as far as my information extends, to operate in a fairly satisfactory manner; and I infer that, as matter of fact, British subjects now enjoy, under the provision for most-favoured-nation treatment contained in its first Article, the benefit of the more complete provisions on the several matters to which you refer contained in the Spanish Treaty of 1861.

It would, therefore, be inexpedient to terminate the Commercial Convention of the 9th December, 1856, unless the Moorish Government are willing to conclude a fresh Commercial Treaty on better terms. Should it appear that certain amendments of Tariff only are at present practicable, they might be secured by means of a short Supplementary Convention, which would, in other respects, leave the Convention of 1856 in full force. If it is necessary, additional stipulations with respect to most-favoured-nation treatment might be included in any such Supplementary Convention.

In conclusion, I have to state that I am willing to leave a large discretion of action to you in this matter; and that I feel assured that you will deal with it in the most satisfactory manner.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 6.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 20.)

(No. 8. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 9, 1878.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 3, Commercial, of the 30th ultimo, informing me that your Lordship concurs generally in my suggestions relative to the negotiation of a new Commercial Treaty, but your Lordship is of opinion that it would be inexpedient to terminate the Convention of 1856 unless the Moorish Government are willing to conclude a fresh Commercial Treaty on better terms, and that if certain amendments of the Tariff only are practicable they might be secured by means of a short Supplementary Convention.

As your Lordship has approved that my proposed visit to the Moorish Court should be deferred, for the reasons I had given in a former despatch, and as I do not propose,

even when I visit the Court, to do more than to ascertain what changes in the stipulations and amendments of Tariff in the Convention of 1856 the Sultan and his chief Minister may be disposed to agree to, I shall be enabled, on my return from the Court, to report to your Lordship the result of the negotiation, and to await instructions.

I expect that my visit to the Moorish Court will have to be deferred until the spring of 1879. I have therefore ample time to submit to your Lordship any further suggestions I may have to make before I proceed to the Moorish Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 7.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 8.)

(No. 10. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November 30, 1879.*

WITH reference to the despatch No. 91 I had the honour of addressing your Lordship this day, and to the despatch No. 6, Commercial, I addressed Lord Derby on the 26th March, 1878, transmitting a Memorandum containing the alterations which I proposed should be inserted into a new Convention of Commerce, I think, on reflection, it will be preferable, instead of proposing to the Sultan that a new Convention should be entered upon, that I endeavour to obtain the removal of restrictions which still exist on articles of export, and generally urge that every facility should be given to trade and navigation. Hereafter, when an understanding has been come to regarding the taxation of British and other foreign subjects engaged in agriculture, and regarding the extent of protection to be afforded to the native agents of merchants engaged in the sale and purchase of goods in the interior, it may then become necessary to enter upon a Convention or formal Agreement with this Government.

In the meantime, I might urge this Government to take energetic steps to check the arbitrary proceedings of Morocco authorities in the interior, with the view of insuring the better protection of the property of those who are engaged in trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 8.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 4. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December 17, 1879.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 30th ultimo, relative to measures to be adopted for the extension of trade between this country and Morocco.

In reply, I have to state that I am willing to leave to your judgment to proceed as may be most conducive to the attainment of this object. It is to be borne in mind, however, in dealing with Governments like that of Morocco, that there is always a risk that facilities granted without a Convention may be arbitrarily withdrawn, and great losses be thus caused to traders.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 9.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 12, 1880.)

(No. 12. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December 31, 1879.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 4 of the 17th instant, leaving to my judgment the steps to be taken with this Government.

for the extension of trade with Morocco, but directing me to bear in mind that without a Convention there is always a risk that facilities granted may be arbitrarily withdrawn.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 10.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 6.)

(No. 9. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, March 30, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a letter addressed to me by the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar, and of my reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

The Exchange Committee at Gibraltar to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Sir, *Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar, March 23, 1880.*

THE Exchange Committee of this city having learned that your Excellency is about to pay a visit to the Court of Morocco, now at Fez, take the opportunity of again most respectfully laying before your Excellency the unsatisfactory state of the commercial relations at present existing between the Empire of Morocco and Great Britain and her Colonies.

Your Excellency is no doubt well aware that Gibraltar is much interested in the commerce of Morocco, many of its merchants having agencies and branch establishments at the ports on the coast, and they feel confident that your Excellency will be glad of any expression of opinion from the Exchange Committee representing the mercantile community of Gibraltar on the subject of their trade.

The system adopted of late years by the Government of the Sultan, of granting limited periods for the exportation of certain articles of produce, namely, beans, maize, and peas, and latterly also bones, has been most prejudicial to trade, by preventing all expansion of business, and creating inconceivable annoyances when vessels chartered to load at the ports do not arrive there exactly at the time stipulated.

The Exchange Committee are of opinion that this mode of procedure is in contravention of Article V of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco of January 1857, and they venture to express a hope that on your Excellency's approaching visit to the Court you will be able to procure an amelioration of this system, and secure for the future a more enlightened and equitable treatment of the interests of the British merchants on the coast, by inducing the Sultan to abandon the granting of stipulated periods, and to allow a continuous term for exportation.

The Exchange Committee are aware that during the years 1878-79 there was great scarcity of food in Barbary, and that it was necessary to import large quantities of food stuffs for the maintenance of the people; but they submit that the closing of the ports in no way bettered their condition, as the fact of their having to import food proves that the limitation of periods of exports and the suppression of trade caused in previous years by this system prevented the country from expansion in growths, and found it in a much poorer condition than it otherwise would have been.

The Exchange Committee also beg to call your Excellency's attention to the scale of export duties in the same Convention of January 1857. The increase of steam navigation since that period, and the opening out of the vast continent of America, which has now become almost the granary of the world, has so reduced the price and made accessible such immense quantities of grain, that a country like Barbary has no chance of successful competition while such heavy duties are levied on its exports, and they submit that the Convention of January 1857 requires immediate revision in this respect, with a view to a great reduction in the export duties, especially those on grain, which at present amount, in the case of beans, maize, and peas, to 25 per cent. of their value in England, or nearly 50 per cent. on their value at the shipping port, and they submit that unless this reduction is made the grain trade in Barbary will always be very limited, unremunerative and unsatisfactory both to growers and to the merchants.

The Exchange Committee are of opinion that the export duties ought to be almost nominal in order to encourage trade and increase the wealth of the country, in which case the consumption of all articles of British manufacture would necessarily be largely increased to the benefit of all branches of British commerce.

The Exchange Committee, knowing well your Excellency's interest in the welfare of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, most respectfully beg to lay these opinions before you, and they trust that your Excellency's mission may have a beneficial effect upon the Moorish Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed by 12 members of the Committee.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar.

Tangier, March 29, 1880.

Gentlemen,

I HAVE received your letter of the 23rd instant, pointing out the instructions which you consider to be prejudicial to commercial relations with Morocco, and expressing a hope that, on my approaching mission to the Moorish Court, I may be enabled to induce the Sultan to introduce a more liberal system, which would be beneficial to trade.

I had already drawn the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the state of trade with this country, and in pursuance of the instructions I have received, I shall do all that is in my power to seek for a gradual removal of those restrictions which check its development; but it has been found a difficult task to convince even more enlightened Governments than that of Morocco that the removal of heavy duties and other restrictions upon trade are beneficial to the country which adopts such measures.

I concur with your opinion regarding the prejudice which is occasioned to trade by the system of granting limited period for the exportation of certain articles of produce, but I do not find that any contravention of the Vth Article was committed, when notice has been given that a prohibition is removed on produce, and at the same time the term is fixed for the duration of its exportation.

As the term always exceeds six months, notice is thus also given when the exportation is to cease, according to the terms of Articles V and VII.

In making this observation, I do not desire in any way to uphold a system which is certainly objectionable and prejudicial to trade.

In conclusion, I have to assure you that I shall always receive with satisfaction from the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar any information which they may desire to impart upon the subject of trade with Morocco, for the mercantile interests of British subjects will always be a matter of paramount consideration in the conduct of the duties with which I am encharged.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 11.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 2. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, April 8, 1880.

Sir,

I HAVE to convey to you my approval of the letter addressed by you to the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch No. 9, Commercial, of the 30th ultimo, in answer to their representations on the subject of the existing commercial relations between Great Britain and her Colonies and the Kingdom of Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 12.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 4.)

(No. 11. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Dar Mekkee Kabash, Fez, April 19, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 8th instant, in which your Lordship approves of the letter I addressed to the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar in answer to their representations on the subject of the existing commercial relations between Great Britain and her Colonies and the Kingdom of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 13.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 13. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 27, 1880.

WITH reference to the despatches, marked in the margin,* relative to measures to be adopted for the extension of trade in Morocco, and to Lord Salisbury's despatch No. 4, Commercial, of the 17th December of last year, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a Memorandum, drawn up by the Vizier, of the language I had held to the Sultan on the subject and His Majesty's replies, from which your Lordship will learn that the Sultan has consented to give orders to Cid Mohammed Bargash on his return from Madrid to enter into negotiation for a revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco.

I trust that the language I held to the Sultan on this occasion to induce His Majesty to accede to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government will be approved of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Memorandum drawn up by the Vizier of Language held by Sir John Hay Drummond Hay to the Sultan, and of His Majesty's Replies, 5 Joomad, the 1st Year 1297.

(Translation.)

THE British Minister said that commercial intercourse between Morocco and other countries is the strongest tie of friendship and best means of insuring the good-will of foreign Powers towards our Lord the Sultan. Trade between nations, the Minister said, is the best guarantee of peace, for every one who benefits by it has an interest in its maintenance, and should it happen that a foreign Power, actuated by ambitious views, declared war, without justifiable grounds, against a country which cultivated commercial relations of a liberal and extensive character with other nations, the Government of that country would have the sympathy, or even the support, of other friendly nations, whose interests might be injured by an outbreak of hostilities; but if the trade of a country is insignificant, produced by restrictions and illiberal measures, it cannot be expected that the same interest be taken in its welfare and independence.

The Sultan replied: "This is very true, and that if there was no direct benefit derived from commercial intercourse, the importance of possessing the friendship and sympathy of other Powers would suffice to induce His Majesty to take steps to promote trade."

The Minister said he was convinced the Sultan would understand this, and that His Majesty was consequently animated by an earnest desire to promote and encourage trade, the fountain of prosperity both of his subjects and of the Treasury. The Convention of Commerce of 1856 entered into by His Majesty's grandfather, Mulai Abderrahman, and the Queen of Great Britain, stipulated the abolition of monopolies and contained a Tariff which fixed the duties on exports and imports. Though the advisers of Mulai Abderrahman had opposed the negotiation of that Commercial Convention, His Majesty was wiser than his counsellors, and had agreed, in accordance with his (Sir John Drummond Hay's) suggestion, to authorize his Minister, the late Cid Mohammed Khateeb, to discuss and arrange with him stipulations and a Tariff which might be advantageous to both countries.

* Nos. 3 and 7.

and beneficial to the Treasury, and to refer the result of their deliberations to His Majesty before any final determination was come to. This was done, and the Convention of 1856 was finally agreed upon. In the XIVth Article it was arranged that either of the Powers should have a right to call upon the other to enter upon a revision of the stipulations, but until such revision should be accomplished the present Convention shall remain in full force. The Minister said that the time had arrived for such revision, as there is much, he said, to be done in this country to improve trade and increase also the customs receipts, and that he is directed by the British Government to urge this upon the consideration and acceptance of His Majesty. He added that as it would require much time to discuss these matters, he had to suggest that the Sultan should provide, as was done by His Majesty Mulai Abderrahman, a Shereefian letter to his Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tangier, ordering him or any other officer who His Majesty may select, possessing the requisite information regarding the interests of trade to prepare, in concert with Sir John Drummond Hay, such alterations or improvements which it may be considered desirable to introduce,—the result of these deliberations to be submitted for His Majesty's consideration before any final determination is arrived at.

The Sultan replied that he had no doubt of his (Sir John Drummond Hay's) desire to promote the welfare of his subjects, and ordered us to thank him in His Majesty's name, and to say that when he (the Minister) is ready to commence the negotiation for a revision of the Convention of Commerce on the return of Cid Mohammed Bargash from Madrid, he is to give notice to the Court.

The Minister said that His Majesty knows that he had always at heart the welfare of these dominions in the counsels he had submitted to His Majesty's ancestors.

The Sultan replied that he had every confidence in his counsels, and he prayed God for his (the Minister's) welfare.

The Minister said that good proof had been given of the benefits obtained from the Convention of Commerce of 1856, as trade and the receipts of customs had trebled since it came into force.

The Sultan replied that when counsels are given by one who is disinterested, and who does not seek for any personal advantage, they are sure to be deserving of consideration, and to be beneficial.

The Minister said that as he reposed the fullest confidence in His Majesty's wisdom and support, he trusted that measures of a beneficial character would be introduced by which trade would be developed, and thereby benefit the subjects of both countries, and by that means also expand the receipts of the Treasury.

Our Lord the Sultan replied that he would take into consideration the measures which might be submitted to him, and that he would consult with those who had a knowledge of commercial affairs, and whatever was beneficial he would accept and adopt.

No. 14.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 5. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, June 14, 1880.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 13, Commercial, of the 27th ultimo, reporting that, in consequence of your representations, the Sultan has consented to enter into negotiations for a revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco, and I have to express to you my approval of the language held by you on this occasion, as reported in the Memorandum inclosed in your despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 15.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received July 1.)

Downing Street, June 30, 1880.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before Earl Granville, copy of a Memorandum by the Gibraltar Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the trade with Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Circular Letter.

I AM directed by the Exchange Committee, acting as the Chamber of Commerce of Gibraltar, to ask that you will be good enough to bring the inclosed Memorandum respecting trade in Morocco to the notice of your Chamber, in the hope that your support may be afforded in urging upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity of British commercial relations with that country being placed upon a more satisfactory footing.

At first sight, it might appear that the subject of "protection" dealt with in the Memorandum inclosed partakes more of a political than a commercial character, but the Exchange Committee are convinced, from their knowledge of Morocco and of its system of government, that this question is closely connected with the future prosperity of British trade in the country. The system of protection at present adopted by the French and other Governments is undoubtedly prejudicial to the general interests of commerce, and the Exchange Committee would gladly see it done away with, and followed by the adoption of a more liberal commercial policy on the part of the Sultan, who would, if supported by the combined influence of the Representatives of foreign Powers, be enabled to establish a stronger dynasty, and to reform the corrupt system of Government from which his country now suffers.

But if, as seems most likely from the attitude of the French and other Delegates at the Conference now assembled at Madrid on this important question, the French system now in vogue is to be continued, it is highly desirable, in the interests of British trade, that Her Majesty's Government should be urged to demand the extension to British subjects of the same privileges in their business transactions which under this system are now accorded to subjects and protegés of other nations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. MOSLEY, *Secretary.*

Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar, June 10, 1880.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Memorandum respecting Trade in Morocco by the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar.

THE Tariff of export and import duties in Morocco is established by the Convention between Great Britain and Morocco of 1857. A copy of the Tariff is annexed. (Appendix A.)

By the terms of Article VIII of this Convention, the Sultan of Morocco reserves to himself the right of prohibiting the exportation of any article of produce, under certain conditions.

The exportation of wheat and barley has been prohibited continuously since the date of the Convention.

The exportation of cattle was for several years limited to a permission to the British Government to export 6,000 head of oxen annually for the use of the troops at Gibraltar. France, Spain, Italy, and Portugal have since claimed the same privilege, which has been accorded, but the permission in the case of these countries has been transferred to a limited number of persons, who have exported the cattle for commercial traffic.

During the past two years, Morocco having been afflicted with bad harvests, the exportation of all descriptions of cereals has been prohibited.

The British Minister, Sir John H. Drummond Hay, left Tangier in the month of April on a mission to the Sultan at Fez, and previous to his departure the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar addressed a letter to his Excellency, in which they expressed the hope that he would, in view of the favourable appearance of the cereal crops this year, obtain from the Sultan his consent to a withdrawal of the prohibition on the export of the grain hitherto exported, viz., beans, maize, and peas. The Committee also urged the British Minister to ask for a revision of the Tariff in the direction of a reduction of duties, especially on exports. His Excellency sent a prompt and courteous reply, expressing his desire to bring about the desired reforms, but pointing out certain difficulties which he feared might stand on his way. Copies of these letters are annexed (Appendix B).

The British Minister returned to Tangier on the 26th May, and on the 3rd June a deputation from the Exchange Committee waited upon his Excellency, by appointment, and presented an address. Copy of which is annexed (Appendix C).

After expressing his satisfaction with the terms of this address, the Minister gave the deputation the following information respecting the result of his mission:—

Grain.—The Sultan, acceding to the British Minister's representations, had agreed to remove the prohibition upon the export of beans, maize, and peas, and further, to depart from the custom which has been observed for many years of fixing at once a date when the exportation shall again cease. Sir John Hay convinced His Majesty that the only proper and rational limit of time for the export of these cereals would be when scarcity of supplies forced prices beyond what exporters could afford to pay. Letters were therefore sent through Tangier to all the ports on the coast, conveying the Sultan's orders for the removal of the prohibition. The British Minister had endeavoured to obtain the Sultan's consent to a reduction of the export duty upon these three descriptions of grain, such reduction to be coincident with the renewal of export, pointing out to His Majesty that, in the first place, such reduction would prove a proportionate gain to the Moorish farmer, and thereby greatly encourage and increase cultivation, and further that, owing to the very low prices (especially of maize) in Europe, consequent upon the immense exports from America, the price which exporters could afford to pay in Morocco would leave but a small margin for native growers. The Sultan objected that his Treasury depended on a large degree upon the grain export duties for its replenishment, and he further pointed out that hitherto all the quantities brought to market had found ready purchasers, and, he believed, contented sellers, and he must decline giving his sanction to a reduction of export duties until facts demonstrated to him that they were an obstacle to business. His Majesty acquainted the British Minister of his intention to increase the cultivation of wheat and barley, by providing growers with more seed and cattle for ploughing.

Cattle.—The British Minister submitted to the Sultan the expediency of substituting the general permission to export cattle at a fixed rate of duty per head for the present unsatisfactory system of granting special permissions to European Governments, with a specified object, when it is known that these concessions to the military requirements of one or more friendly Powers have been dealt with in a manner not contemplated by the Sultan, viz., the transfer of these concessions to a small number of favoured merchants. His Excellency pointed out to the Sultan that the capabilities of Morocco for the production of cattle were very great indeed, and that the untrammeled export would not only create a large addition to his revenue, but would greatly stimulate cattle-breeding, thereby adding to the well-being of his people, and would, by creating an important item of trade, strengthen the ties of friendship and consideration which exist between Morocco and all European countries. The Sultan admitted the weight of Sir John Hay's arguments, and acceded in principle to the propriety of making the export of cattle general; but he deemed the present moment unpropitious, as, owing to the enormous loss of cattle last year through the drought, which brought famine to the country, there are not now a sufficient number to permit of the measure being adopted at once. He said, however, that the matter should have his most serious consideration.

Trade Convention.—The British Minister, in drawing the Sultan's attention to Article XIV of the Convention of 1857, by which it is provided that either of the Contracting Parties can, after five years from the date of the Convention, have the right to call upon the other to enter upon a revision of the same, said that the time had now come when a revision had become necessary, and it was agreed that such revision should take place as soon as possible after the return of the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs from his attendance at the Conference now being held at Madrid, he being the Minister appointed by the Sultan to carry out the revision with Sir John Hay Drummond Hay. The British Minister assured the deputation that his best efforts would be used in obtaining a reduction of such duties as he considered could be, and ought to be, reduced, and he added that he would be most happy to receive from the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar, from any commercial body in England, and from all persons interested in the trade with Morocco, suggestions and information which would assist and guide him in carrying out the negotiations with the Moorish Minister for the revision of the Convention. He impressed upon the deputation that such suggestions and information would be very valuable to him, as he was necessarily uninformed upon many points familiar to merchants having commercial relations with Morocco. Before closing the interview, Sir John Hay expressed in the warmest terms the great interest he took in the development of commerce between England and the country to which he had been so many years accredited, and assured them that nothing could give him more pleasure than to see any efforts of his in this direction attended with success. He had, he said, forcibly impressed upon the Sultan the great importance it must be to the stability and well-being of his Empire to cultivate and strengthen commercial relations with European countries, and to this end he had urged

upon His Majesty not only the necessity of checking abuses in the internal administration of Morocco, which unfortunately exist to a lamentable extent, but also by a liberal and enlightened policy to facilitate trade, which the experience of all countries had shown was the surest and most enduring tie that can exist between one country and another. Sir John Hay informed the deputation that he hoped to proceed to England very shortly, and that during his stay there he would be very happy to receive communications from any commercial bodies taking an interest in trade with Morocco.

In communicating these details of the interview of its deputation to the British Minister at Tangier, the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar desires to convey to the British commercial body a more accurate knowledge of circumstances affecting trade with Morocco than would otherwise come to their knowledge. The capabilities of Morocco as a producing country are very great, and, if properly developed, should lead to her being a trading country of the first importance. But if Morocco is favoured as regards soil and climate beyond most countries, the present conditions of her political and administrative organization are altogether unfavourable to the development of her magnificent resources. The present Sultan is known to be very intelligent and anxious to improve the condition of his people, and his relations with other countries, but he has inherited a state of things which the experience of all civilized countries has shown to be inconsistent with progress and prosperity. There are no roads in the country, and traffic between the coast towns where alone Europeans reside and the interior is slow, painful, and very costly. The Governors of the provinces are, as a rule, actuated by cupidity only, and carry out their rule with relentless tyranny tor their own purposes, with but little consideration for the Sovereign's interests, and none whatever for the people they are appointed to govern.

Trading intercourse with foreign countries was, until a comparatively recent period, almost nothing, and the knowledge of the rules which should govern such intercourse is, of course, of the crudest description. The most prominent of the obstacles to the furtherance of European commercial intercourse with Morocco is the question which the Conference now assembled at Madrid is discussing, namely, protection. The publicity given by the English press to the subject-matter of the deliberations of the Congress will convey a certain degree of knowledge of the question to the public, but the Exchange Committee considers that it may be useful to give in this Memorandum a succinct statement of the points at issue as they really stand. The Committee is the more convinced of the propriety of doing this, as representations have been made through the press and otherwise, having for their object to associate this question of Treaty protection with the broad and humane question of protection to the Jewish population in Morocco, with which it has no connection whatever. Protection, in the sense in which that word expresses the subject now under discussion at Madrid, is of two kinds:—

1. The protection to Moorish subjects stipulated for by Treaty or Agreement.
2. The irregular protection accorded by the Representatives of certain European Powers to a small number of Moorish subjects, without reference to any Treaty stipulations.

The Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco of 1857, and the Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861, provide that Moorish subjects holding certain employments in the British and Spanish Legations and Consulates shall be absolved from the payment of taxes, &c., and they are, in fact, practically under European jurisdiction, and cease to be under the control of the Moorish Government so long as they hold these official employments. Their families, that is, their wives and children, also enjoy these immunities. Moorish subjects in the employment of other European Legations and Consulates enjoy the same privilege under the most favoured nation clause. The exemptions of Moorish subjects from the authority of the Moorish Government are strictly limited to these cases, under the Treaties referred to. Under the Trade Convention of 1857, British subjects can and do intrust the transaction of their affairs to brokers, factors, or agents, but it is expressly stipulated that if such agents are subjects of the Sultan they are to be treated as other Moorish subjects. The practical working of this stipulation respecting the agents of British subjects has been that almost without exception such agents have been free to pursue that avocation without the slightest hindrance from the Moorish authorities, and the interests committed to their charge have been most fully respected. In the few exceptions to this rule which have occurred, full redress has been promptly obtained from the Moorish Government for any injury to British interests through the ill-treatment of agents by Governors or other subordinate officers.

The protection to Moorish subjects formally stipulated, or tacitly accorded under the Treaties of 1857 and 1861, is not contested by the Moorish Government, and is found to work well.

In 1863 an Agreement was entered into between the French Legation and an Agent of the Moorish Government, by which the nature of the protection afforded to native factors, brokers, or agents of French merchants, was assimilated to that stipulated for on behalf of Moorish subjects employed by the French Legation and Consulates. In fact, these native commercial agents were, by this Agreement, withdrawn from the action of the Moorish authorities, and rendered subject only to the French Legation and Consulates. There were, however, these restrictions: each merchant could only name two in each port, the protection was not to be hereditary, was only to extend to the agent's wife and children, and did nnt apply to natives employed by Frenchmen in agricultural enterprises —except in so far that such natives could not be legally proceeded against without the French Consular authority being informed of it. The restrictions placed upon the protection to French agents under this Agreement have in practice been completely disregarded, and the system at present in force, under the sanction of the French Legation, is that all Frenchmen in the country name as their agents, or "semsars," the richest and most influential farmers they can, and as, by the mere fact of one of these farmers being a Frenchman's semsar, he is exempted, not only from the payment of taxes, but also from the authority of the Sultan, it can easily be understood that the appointment of a Frenchman's semsar is eagerly sought after. But the consequence of the appointment of a Frenchman's semsar is not limited to his personal exemption from payment of taxes and from the Sultan's authority. All his family and his partners obtain the same immunity, and are practically placed beyond the action of any law, as many of them reside in districts which are three or more days journey distant from the residence of any French Consular officer, to whose jurisdiction they are alone amenable. When it is considered that, under the feudal system existing in Morocco, these farmers are the Sultan's only militia or country police, the persons to whom he can alone apply for armed force to repress tumults and enforce the law, it can easily be conceived how seriously the Sultan's authority in the country is endangered by this system. If the right at present claimed by French subjects should be confirmed by the Congress at Madrid, every other nation will have the same right as Frenchmen now claim, and the result will be that several thousands of these native semsars, constituting nearly, if not all, the entire body of farmers owning property, and including the greater part of the Sultan's militia, will cease to be subject to his authority. The result would be that the Sultan's authority would cease to exist in the country, and a state of anarchy would inevitably follow and trade disappear. It is to correct this state of things that the Sultan has obtained the assembling of the Congress at Madrid, and the Exchange Committee understands that his Representative is supported by the Representatives of England and Spain in his demand that the existing system of French semsars shall be replaced by the right of European merchants to appoint native agents, with the sanction of the Moorish Governors and European Consuls, under proper regulations for the protection of the interests confided to them, but without withdrawing such semsars from their allegiance and duty to the Sultan as Moorish subjects.

Irregular protection is, as has been stated, the protection afforded by the Representatives of certain European Powers to a small number of Moorish subjects without reference to any Treaty stipulation. The persons thus openly protected are about 1,500 in number, and consist principally of a number of more or less wealthy members of the Jewish persuasion and their families. The heads of families so protected not only claim exemption from payment of taxes and from the Sultan's legal authority, but they claim and exercise the right of appointing their agents or semsars throughout the country, with as many, or nearly as many, privileges as the French claim for their semsars. These members of the Hebrew community enjoying European protection are for the most part highly respectable persons, many of them wealthy and enjoying the consideration of those among whom they live, and no one can blame them if by any means in their power they have sought exemption from the not enviable position of Moorish subjects. But there are in the country 200,000 of their co-religionists for whom it is not pretended that there is, or ever has been, the slightest claim to protection in the sense in which that word is used in this Memorandum. The protection which all civilized people would gladly see given to this large community is that which can be brought about by the Representatives of the Diplomatic Body to the Sultan in favour of a removal of such disabilities as the Jewish population of Morocco labour under, and in the exercise of their good offices to obtain redress when an injustice has been suffered at the hands of the authorities or the Mahommedan inhabitants. An endeavour has been made to create the impression in the minds of people in England that, in dealing with the quéstion of protection as brought before the Congress at Madrid, an attempt is being made to withdraw some protection hitherto afforded to the large majority of the Jewish population in Morocco, and it is not difficult to trace to its real course this endeavour to enlist the sympathy naturally felt for an oppressed race in

favour of a small body who feel that their present irregular position may be threatened by the deliberations of the Congress. By the representations thus referred to this curious anomaly is supported, that the British Minister who continually has (almost alone) used his influence in favour of the great body of the Jews of Morocco, is held up as the prime mover of proceedings having for their object to aggravate the ills they suffer from. The Exchange Committee believes that a knowledge of the facts will remove any impression of this kind.

It is, perhaps, worthy of remark that, while the greater number of these irregularly-protected natives are engaged in trade between Morocco and Great Britain, the British Legation has not experienced the necessity of protecting any native merchants, although the British trade with Morocco is larger than that of all other European countries together. Should the Congress at Madrid come to the decision that these irregular protections are to cease, the Sultan is prepared to give substantial guarantees that those who now enjoy it will not be interfered with by the Moorish authorities in any way.

In framing this Memorandum for transmission to the British Chambers of Commerce, the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar ventures to hope that they are able to convey some information which may be useful in the great work of forwarding and stimulating commercial enterprise, which owes so much to those bodies. Morocco and its trade is at present little known to the great body of British merchants, but it is, the Committee believes, destined at some not distant time to hold a prominent position among the countries with which Great Britain trades, and its exports of grain, wool, oil, almonds, gum, hides, cattle, and ivory, and its imports of manufactures, iron, and colonial produce, will probably hereafter largely figure in the commercial statistical returns of England. To this end, it is of great importance that all unnecessary obstructions to the extension of trade be removed, and the Exchange Committee hopes that the British Chambers of Commerce will use their influence to obtain reductions of export and import duties as far as practicable, and to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity of the commercial relations between Great Britain and Morocco being placed upon a more satisfactory footing.

(Signed) F. FRANCIA,
Chairman of Exchange Committee.

Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar, June 10, 1880.

(Appendix A.)—TABULAR Statement of Export Duties on the principal Articles of Morocco Produce, as per the Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco, January 1857, with their equivalent in English Weights, Measures, and Monies.

Articles of Export.	Duty in Spanish Dollar.	Duty in Morocco Ounces.	Equivalent in Spanish Coin at 32½ Morocco Ounces per 19 reals vellon.	Equivalent in English Weights.	Equivalent in English Measures.	Equivalent in English Money, per English Weights or Measures.
			Rs. v.	Lbs.		Lbs.
Wheat	Per strike fanega full ..	..	..	96		s. d. At 20 5 per quarter of 480
Maize and durra ..	.. strike ..	..	..	119		8 3 .. 480
Barley	.. full ..	..	..	70		11 8 .. 400
Beans	.. ..	..	..	116		8 5½ .. 480
Peas (all other grain) ..	.. cantar	..	..	120		8 7 .. 504
Flour	..	..	..	112		3 7 per cwt. of 112
Birdseed	..	..	..	112		1 5 .. 112
Dates	..	..	..	112		4 9½ .. 112
Almonds	.. 1,000	..	..	112		4 2½ .. 112
Oranges, lemons, and limes	cantar	..	..	..	Beans and garbanzos are the only articles included under the head of "all other grain," and they pay the same duty as maize, viz., ½ dollar per full fanega.	1 2 per cwt. of 112
Wild marjoram ..	..	..	..	112		2 4½ .. 112
Cummin seed ..	..	..	..	112		5 11½ .. 112
Oil	..	..	..	112		2 4½ .. 112
Gums	..	..	..	112		1 9½ .. 112
Henna	..	..	..	112		14 3½ .. 112
Wax	..	..	..	112		1 10½ .. 112 = 1d. per lb.
Rice	..	..	..	112		9 6½ .. 112 = ¼d. per lb.
Wool, washed ..	..	..	..	112		6 7 .. 112
" in grease ..	..	..	..	112		4 3½ .. 112
Hides, sheep and goat skins ..	..	..	..	112		11 11 .. 112
Tanned skins called felaly, suwany, cochines	.. 1,000	..	..	..		5 11½ per cwt. of 112
Horns	.. cantar	..	..	112		
Tallow	.. head	..	25			
Mules	..	..	5			
Donkeys	..	..	1			
Sheep	.. dozen	..	..	..		
Goats	.. 1,000	..	..	..		
Fowls	.. 100	..	..	..		
Eggs	.. 1,000	..	..	..		
Slippers	.. cantar	..	..	..		
Porcupine quills ..	.. lb.	..	..	..		
Grasool	.. 100	..	..	..		
Ostrich feathers ..	.. cantar	..	..	..		
Baskets	.. 100	..	..	..		
Carraway seed ..	.. cantar	..	..	..		
Combs of wood ..	..	..	..	..		
Hair	.. 100	..	..	..		
Raisins	.. cantar	..	..	..		
Woollen, cashes called "karsay"	..	..	..	..		
Tacksut (a dye) ..	..	..	..	..		
Tanned fleeces ..	..	..	..	..		
Hemp and flax ..	..	..	..	..		

REMARKS.

The full fanega means heaped fanega.
Export of wheat and barley has always been, and still is, prohibited.
In payment of duties on articles which are stipulated as payable in Moorish ounces, these are recovered at the standard rate of 32½ ozs. per 19 reals of vellon, notwithstanding the rate in the country may be much in excess of this; at times more than double.
For the purpose of reducing amounts to English money, exchange has been taken at 49d. to the Spanish dollar.
In the custom-house only English weights are used, *i.e.*, 112 lbs. English are reckoned as a cantar, and its component parts in proportion.

Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar,
June 10, 1880.

Appendix (B).

Sir, *Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar, March* 23, 1880.

The Exchange Committee of this city having learned that your Excellency is about to pay a visit to the Court of Morocco, now at Fez, take the opportunity of again most respectfully laying before your Excellency the unsatisfactory state of the commercial relations at present existing between the Empire of Morocco and Great Britain and her Colonies.

Your Excellency is no doubt well aware that Gibraltar is much interested in the commerce of Morocco, many of its merchants having agencies and branch establishments at the ports on the coast, and they feel confident that your Excellency will be glad of any expression of opinion from the Exchange Committee, representing the mercantile community of Gibraltar, on the subject of their trade.

The system adopted of late years by the Government of the Sultan of granting limited periods for the exportation of certain articles of produce, namely, beans, maize, and peas, and latterly also bones, has been most prejudicial to trade, by preventing all expansion of business and creating inconceivable annoyance when vessels chartered to load at the ports did not arrive there exactly at the time stipulated.

The Exchange Committee are of opinion that this mode of procedure is in contravention of Article V of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco of January 1857; and they venture to express a hope that, in your Excellency's approaching visit to the Court, you will be able to procure an amelioration of this system, and secure for the future a more enlightened and equitable treatment of the interests of the British merchants on the coast, by inducing the Sultan to abandon the granting of stipulated periods, and to allow a continuous term for exportation.

The Exchange Committee are aware that during the years 1878-79 there was great scarcity of food in Barbary, and that it was necessary to import large quantities of food-stuffs for the maintenance of the people; but they submit that the closing of the ports in no way bettered their condition, as the fact of their having to import food proves that the limitation of periods of exports, and the suppression of trade caused in previous years by this system, prevented the country from the expansion in growths, and found it in a much poorer condition when visited by the famine than it otherwise would have been.

The Exchange Committee also beg to call your Excellency's attention to the scale of export duties in the same Convention of January 1857. The increase of steam navigation since that period, and the opening out of the vast Continent of America which has now become almost the granary of the world, has so reduced the price and made accessible such immense quantity of grain, that a country like Barbary has no chance of successful competion while such heavy duties are levied on its exports; and they submit that the Convention of January 1857 requires immediate revision in this respect, with a view to a great reduction of the export duties, especially those on grain, which at present amount, in the case of beans, maize, and peas, to 25 per cent. of their value in England, or nearly 50 per cent. on their value at the shipping ports; and they submit that, unless this reduction is made, the grain trade in Barbary will always be very limited, unremunerative, and unsatisfactory, both to growers and to the merchants.

The Exchange Committee are of opinion that the export duties ought to be almost nominal in order to encourage trade and increase the wealth of the country, in which case the consumption of all articles of British manufactures would necessarily be largely increased to the great benefit of all branches of British commerce.

The Exchange Committee, knowing well your Excellency's interest in the welfare of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, most respectfully beg to lay this opinion before you, and they trust that your Excellency's mission may have a beneficial effect upon the Moorish Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS FRANCIA.
M. J. COLL.
A. MOSLEY.
J. CARARA.
F. IMOSSI.
J. P. ONETTI.
W. GLASSFORD.
T. G. FRENCH.
W. A. THOMSON.
Per N. H. PEACOCK.
J. G. FRENCH.
B. CARVER.

To his Excellency Sir John Hay Drummond Hay, K.C.B.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy
Extraordinary to the Court of Morocco.

Gentlemen, *British Legation, Tangier, March* 29, 1880.

I have received your letter of the 23rd instant, pointing out the restrictions which you consider to be prejudicial to commercial relations with Morocco, and expressing a hope that, on my approaching mission to the Moorish Court, I may be enabled to induce the Sultan to introduce a more liberal system, which would be beneficial to trade. I had already drawn the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the state of trade with this country, and, in pursuance of the instructions I have received, I shall do all that is in my power to seek for a gradual removal of those restrictions which check its development; but it has been found a difficult task to convince even more enlightened Governments than that of Morocco that the removal of heavy duties and the restrictions upon trade are beneficial to the country which adopts such measures.

I concur with your opinion regarding the prejudice which is occasioned to trade by the system of limited periods for the exportation of certain articles of produce; but I do not find that any contraventions of the Vth Article was committed, when notice has been given that a prohibition is removed on produce, and at the same time the term is fixed for the duration of its exportation.

As the term always exceeds six months, notice is thus also given when the exportation is to cease, according to the term of the Vth and VIIth Articles.

In conclusion, I have to assure you that I shall always receive with satisfaction from the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar any information which they may desire to impart upon the subject of trade with Morocco, for the mercantile interests of British subjects will always be a matter of paramount consideration in the conduct of the duties with which I am encharged.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Appendix (C).

Tangier, June 3, 1880.

Sir,

We have been deputed by the Exchange Committee of Gibraltar to wait upon your Excellency for the purpose of congratulating you upon your safe return from your recent mission to His Shereefian Majesty the Sultan at Fez, and to express the hope that your visit has been satisfactory and pleasant in every way.

Your Excellency is already aware of the great interest taken by the Exchange Committee, representing the mercantile community of Gibraltar, in the trade, welfare, and general development of Morocco, with which country most of our merchants are connected, having agents and factors at the different ports on the coast; your Excellency, therefore, no doubt fully appreciates the anxiety that is felt for an improvement in the business relations between Morocco and Europe and for a freer development of trade, now that there appears to be every chance of a good harvest after the calamitous years with which the country has recently been afflicted.

The Exchange Committee has learned with satisfaction that, yielding to your Excellency's representations, the Sultan has decreed the exportation of beans, peas, and maize for an unlimited time. There can be little doubt that this measure will tend to revive trade, but the Committee is convinced that unless the present heavy export duties are considerably reduced, the good effects of the measure will be to a great extent nullified. The enormous quantities of maize, wheat, flour, and other cereal products, continuosly sent from America to Europe, have so reduced prices that, so long as the present heavy Morocco export duties exist, it is almost impossible for exporters from Morocco to compete with American and Black Sea supplies. Taking present and recent average European prices as a guide, the prices which merchants on the Morocco coast could afford to pay to native producers would be barely equal to the export duty levied under the existing Convention.

We are requested to respectfully ask your Excellency's attention to this fact, as the Exchange Committee feels that, unless a change is made in the direction of a reduction of export duties, your Excellency's efforts for the benefit of this branch of trade will be, to a great extent, without practical result.

The Exchange Committee hopes that a general revision of the existing Convention between Great Britain and Morocco may, under your Excellency's guidance, soon take place, in order that the general trade between the two countries may be placed upon a more satisfactory footing.

There are several branches of commerce which the Exchange Committee is convinced could be developed in Morocco to the great advantage of the country, such as the exportation of cattle, which is now carried on by a few privileged merchants, instead of being open to all; the exportation of bones without periodical restrictions; the export of cork and cork-tree bark, and of other produce at present prohibited, would benefit Morocco and create branches of industry at present denied to the natives. Morocco being essentially an agricultural country must necessarily depend upon its products for its welfare, and the more these natural resources are fostered the greater must be the imports of foreign merchandize, and the more close and important the relations between Morocco and Europe. The capability of development of the trade between England and Morocco has for some time past attracted the serious attention of the large commercial centres of England, and the Exchange Committee has seen with satisfaction how much interest is now felt by the British commercial body in the country to which your Excellency is accredited as Her Majesty's Representative. All parties interested in the trade with Morocco hope that by means of your Excellency's great influence in the country, and the well-known care you give to commercial interests, a better state of things may be brought about, and the prosperity and welfare both of natives and Europeans trading with Morocco may be thereby enhanced.

We beg to thank your Excellency for your kindness in receiving us, and in expressing our personal satisfaction at having been selected to perform the duty deputed to us, to assure you that the Exchange Committee will always feel a warm interest in all matters connected with your Excellency's welfare.

(Signed) W. H. SMITH.
BENJAMIN CARVER.
A. MOSLEY.

To his Excellency Sir John Hay Drummond Hay, K.C.B.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary to Morocco.

No. 16.

Mr. Watkins to Earl Granville.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord, *Chamber of Commerce, Wolverhampton, July* 5, 1880.

BY request of the President of this Chamber, I beg respectfully to draw your Lordship's attention to the action taken by the Exchange Committee, being the Chamber of Commerce of Gibraltar, through the British Minister, Sir John H. Drummond Hay, to secure the reduction in the export duties on grain from Morocco, and to secure other concessions tending to the advancement of British trade with Morocco; and I am to further respectfully request that your Lordship's influence may be used to secure the same objects.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN WATKINS, *Secretary.*

No. 17.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Watkins.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 7, 1880.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and to inform you, in reply, that the subjects therein mentioned relating to the trade of this country with Morocco are receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 18.

Mr. Turnbull to Earl Granville.—(Received August 4.)

North Shields and Tynemouth Chamber of Commerce, Offices,
My Lord, 43, *Tyne Street, North Shields, August* 3, 1880.

AT a meeting of the Directors of this Chamber, held in the Town Hall, North Shields, on the 21st ultimo, Thomas Jackson, Esq., J.P., in the chair, the attention of the

meeting was called to the great benefits that would be conferred on this and other European countries by a revision in the Tariff of duties imposed by the Sultan of Morocco, both as regards imports into that State and exports.

The Convention between Great Britain and Morocco was agreed to so far back as 1857.

At the request of this Chamber, I have to humbly and respectfully press upon your Lordship the necessity for an immediate revision of the said Convention, with a view to induce the Sultan to permit the exportation of cattle, wheat, maize, flour, and other produce at a moderate duty, and to permit the imports of our manufactured goods into Morocco at a moderate duty.

The Chamber earnestly hopes your Lordship will take an early opportunity, through our Representative at the Court of the Sultan, to point out to His Majesty how much it would tend to develop the resources of that Empire by permitting the export of cattle, grain, wool, oils, almonds, gum, hides, &c., and to receive in exchange the manufactures of Great Britain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RALPH TURNBULL, *Secretary.*

No. 19.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Turnbull.

Foreign Office, August 5, 1880.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, urging the expediency of a revision of the Tariff of duties imposed by the Sultan of Morocco; and I am to acquaint you, in reply, that the matter is receiving attention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 20.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 7. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, August 5, 1880.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 13 of the 27th May last, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the North Shields and Tynemouth Chamber of Commerce,* urging the necessity of revision of the Tariff of duties imposed by the Sultan of Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 21.

Mr. White to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20.)

(No. 23. Commercial.)

Tangier, August 12, 1880.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 7, Commercial, of the 5th instant, transmitting, for my information, copy of a letter from the North Shields and Tynemouth Chamber of Commerce, urging the necessity of a revision of the Tariff of duties imposed by the Sultan of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE.

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* No. 18.

No. 22.

Mr. Blood to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received September 28.)

The Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool,
Liverpool, September 27, 1880.

Sir,

THE question of the necessity of British commercial relations with Morocco being placed on a more satisfactory footing has been brought before the Council of this Chamber by the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar, acting as a Chamber of Commerce, and the question has been very carefully considered by the Council of the Chamber.

I am directed by the Council to say that they concur in opinion with the Committee of the Gibraltar Exchange, that if the French system now in vogue in Morocco is to be continued, and the Committee believe that this is most likely, it is highly desirable in the interests of British trade that Her Majesty's Government should demand the extension to British subjects of the same privileges in their business transactions which, under this system, are accorded to the subjects of other nations.

The Council of this Chamber trust that Her Majesty's Government will endeavour to secure to British subjects the advantages enjoyed by the subjects of other countries trading with Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM BLOOD, *Secretary.*

No. 23.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Blood.

Foreign Office, September 30, 1880.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant.

The Exchange Committee at Gibraltar do not appear to have made any definite statement as to the precise nature of their complaint relating to British trade with Morocco. I am, however, to request that you will inform the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce that your letter has been referred to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangiers for a Report.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 24.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 8. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, September 30, 1880.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of correspondence with the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce* relative to a complaint made by the Exchange Committee at Gibraltar, that (if their statement is rightly understood) British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment in Morocco.

I have to request that you will report on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 25.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received October 20.)

(No. 24. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 13, 1880.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 8, Commercial, of the 30th ultimo, transmitting copies of correspondence with the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, requesting that Her Majesty's Government will secure to British subjects the advantages enjoyed by the subjects of other countries trading with Morocco.

* Nos. 22 and 23.

As British subjects have enjoyed all the privileges which have been ceded to foreign subjects in trade, I am led to infer from the letter of the Secretary of the Liverpool Chamber that he refers especially to the privileges ceded to the native agents of French merchants in the interior in the Agreement between the French and Moorish Governments of 1863, and that it is desired these privileges should be extended to the agents of British subjects.

On a reference to numerous past despatches on the subject of protection afforded to natives by the French Government, and to the language I held at the meeting of the foreign Representatives at Tangier last year, and also to the language of Cid Mohammed Bargash at the Conference,* there will be found the arguments which have been brought forward to demonstrate why this system of protection is considered to be most objectionable as weakening the authority of the Sultan and giving rise to vexatious questions.

According to the French Agreement, merchants have the privilege of appointing native agents in the interior to purchase and sell goods. These agents are exempted from the jurisdiction of the Sultan's authorities, and they may commit murder and robbery or other crimes, and they cannot be arrested except by a Consular authority at the port where the merchant resides, which may be three or four days distant, and, as frequently occurs, the merchant and the Consular officer is the same person, and, therefore, an interested party is charged to investigate the case after interminable delays in obtaining witnesses and evidence.

The evils arising from such a system are obvious, and caused me to do all in my power to bring about the abolition of the clause in the French Agreement, and to substitute a proposal I had put forward for insuring the safety of native mercantile agents and of merchandize without depriving the Sultan's authorities of the power to arrest criminals.

As the Convention signed at Madrid by the foreign Representatives and the Moorish Minister confirm the privileges ceded in the French Agreement of 1863, and as it cannot be denied that the agents of British subjects are placed in a disadvantageous position in the markets in the interior, from the fact that the protected French native agents frequently assume the right of dictating their own prices and taking possession of produce without the local authorities having the power to control them, I can no longer seek as I have hitherto done to refrain British subjects, or the subjects of other Governments I represent in Morocco, from appointing their agents in the interior, who will be placed on the same footing as the French agents; and I shall lose no time in addressing a Circular despatch to the Consular officers at the ports to that effect, and I have informed Cid Mohammed Bargash of my intention.

I will not, however, conceal from your Lordship that I expect that these agents will become a source of much trouble both to the Moorish Government, to Consular officers, and to myself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 26.

Mr. Lister to Mr. Blood.

Foreign Office, October 27, 1880.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you extracts of a Report from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier relative to the commercial privileges accorded to British subjects in Morocco.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 27.

Mr. Browning to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received December 4.)

Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, December 3, 1880.

Sir,

THE question of the revision of the Morocco Treaty of 1857 has been brought under the attention of this Chamber, and about the month of June last, on the visit of Sir John Hay, Her Majesty's Minister at Morocco, to this country, it was expected that initiatory

* See Annex No. 2 in Protocol No. 1 of July 19, 1879.

† No. 25.

steps would have been taken for obtaining amendments of the Treaty in order to place our trade relations with Morocco on a more satisfactory footing.

Nothing has subsequently come to the knowledge of the Chamber respecting the negotiations which may have been proceeding, or possibly by this time concluded; and I am directed to ask the favour of such information on the subject as you may be at liberty to communicate to the Chamber, for the information of merchants in this city largely interested in the Morocco trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. BROWNING, *Secretary.*

No. 28.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Browning.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1880.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to acquaint you that no Report on the subject of a revision of the Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier since his return to his post, but that his attention shall be called to the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 29.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 9. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 10, 1880.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 13 of the 27th May last, I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the revision of the Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco,* a ndI have to request you to report to me how the matter now stands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 30.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 6, 1881.)

(No. 26. Commercial.)

Tangier, December 26, 1880.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 9, Commercial, of the 10th instant, transmitting a copy of a letter from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco, and directing me to report to your Lordship how the matter stands.

Having learnt from Cid Mohammed Bargash, on my return to Tangier in October, that he had not received any order from the Sultan to enter upon the negotiation in question, I addressed a letter to the Vizir Moktsar reminding him of the engagement† that had been entered into with me at the Court, and requesting that the promised letter of authority should be sent to Cid Mohammed Bargash. The Vizir has not yet replied to this communication, but I can hardly be surprised, as his indifference and inattention to affairs is a matter of general complaint on the part of all the foreign Representatives.

A few days previously to the receipt of your Lordship's despatch I requested one of the Sultan's officers who was proceeding to Fez to inform His Majesty that I had received no acknowledgment of various letters I had addressed the Vizir.

Whilst writing this despatch I have just received a private note from the Court to say that replies will be sent immediately, as also the Sultan's order about the revision of the Convention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

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* No. 27.

† Inclosure in No. 13.

No. 31.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to the Secretary to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

Foreign Office, January 8, 1881.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 10th ultimo concerning the revision of the Treaty of Commerce between this country and Morocco, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that a Report has been received from Sir J. Drummond Hay, from which it appears that he is in communication with the Moorish Government on the subject, but that the matter has not yet taken any definite form.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 32.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(*Received January* 20.)

(No. 2. Commercial.)

Tangier, January 11, 1881.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatches No. 13, Commercial, of the 27th May, and No. 26, Commercial, of the 26th December last, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizir, informing me that the Sultan has sent instructions to Cid Mohammed Bargash to treat with me regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce. The Vizir, in acknowledging my letter to him on this subject, recapitulates the advice I had offered, wherein I had urged that the promise made to me by the Sultan on my late visit to the Moorish Court should be fulfilled. I had given similar counsels to the Sultan in a private audience, but as the promised orders to Cid Mohammed Bargash regarding the negotiation had not reached him, and as I thought it probable that the Vizir or other officers at the Court had endeavoured to dissuade His Majesty from entering upon the negotiation, I addressed an officious letter to the Vizir, in which I reiterated in explicit language the counsels I had already offered to the Sultan, and I requested the Vizir to submit them without delay to His Majesty.

I further directed Cid Boobekeer, on his arrival at the Court, to make known to His Majesty the step I had taken and my reasons for doing so, as also the dissatisfaction I felt at the apparent want of good faith which had been evinced by the Vizir.]

Your Lordship will observe that the reply of the Vizir is of a satisfactory character, for the Sultan appears to have taken into consideration the counsels I had offered. Cid Mohammed Bargash informs me that he has received instructions to enter upon the negotiation, and that he is prepared to do so as soon as the question respecting taxation and gate dues are definitively settled by the foreign Representatives in accordance with the XIIth and XIIIth stipulations of the Convention of Madrid.

With reference to that subject and to the passages in the Vizir's letter, in which he alludes to my suggestion, that stipulations regarding the payment by British subjects of agricultural taxes and gate dues should be introduced into the revised Convention of Commerce, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I made this suggestion, as I think it desirable to introduce such stipulations, as Article IV of the General Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco of 1856 and Articles III and IX of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 are opposed to such taxes or dues being levied on British subjects, for when these stipulations were arranged, British and other foreign subjects were not engaged in agricultural pursuits in Morocco, and had not the privilege of purchasing land or other immovable property, as is stipulated in the Madrid Convention.*

I take this opportunity of mentioning that it will be advisable also to introduce into the revised Convention stipulations regarding the treatment of the native agents of British merchants, as arranged in the Madrid Convention.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

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* See Article XI of the Madrid Convention.

Inclosure in No. 32.

The Vizir Moktsar to Sir J. H. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After the usual compliments.) *January* 3. 1881.

WE have received your letter, in which you say that when you were at the Court of our Lord the Sultan you made a representation regarding the revision and introduction of alterations in the Convention of Commerce, with the view of increasing and improving trade, which you said would be also beneficial to the receipts at the ports, and that you had then received the Shereefian reply, to the effect that when you were ready to enter upon the negotiation, on the return of Cid Mohammed Bargash from Madrid, that you should give notice to the Shereefian Court, and therefore you request that a Royal Order be sent to Cid Mohammed Bargash to treat with you regarding the revision of the Convention, and that whatever may be arranged, or whatever may be added or withdrawn from the stipulations, as being considered beneficial, should be made known to the Shereefian Court, so that His Majesty may take it into consideration, and that also you would refer the same to your Government for their consideration.

You say also that you think it will be opportune to introduce into the new Convention stipulations regarding the Regulations which may be established by the foreign Representatives, in concert with Cid Mohammed Bargash, regarding the gate dues upon beasts of burthen, and what other taxes persons under foreign protection who are engaged in agriculture will have to pay, as there are clauses in existing stipulations which do not admit of such taxation.

You point out that the welfare of these dominions depends in great measure on its agricultural prosperity and the consequent development of commerce, and you say that neither the agriculture nor the commerce of Morocco are in a satisfactory or prosperous state as contrasted with other countries which are of less extent and natural wealth.

You say that all countries in Europe possess not only considerable land and naval forces, but have expended large sums in improvements, such as railroads and roads, bridges, quays, and other establishments which aid in developing the wealth of those countries, and are generally beneficial to the people.

You say that it is the desire of your friendly Government to see the prosperity and wealth of these dominions increased, but that, should this country remain in its present state, the people will not prosper, and the finances of the Government will continue to be restricted. You urge that the Shereefian Government should endeavour to assimilate its proceedings and regulations to those Governments whose subjects are increasing in wealth and prosperity.

You say that the restricted state of agriculture in these dominions proceeds from the arbitrary and unjust proceedings of the Governors of provinces and towns, which check the industry of the farmers and the activity of artizans in manufactures, for there is no security of life or property to either, and that when a man accumulates wealth by his industry it is forcibly and unjustly taken from him, and, therefore, the people are discouraged from being industrious. Amongst other things, you mention that the Governor of the districts near Darelbaida have monopolized the trade in wax.

You say that your friendship towards His Shereefian Majesty has also led you to suggest that those Governors who are acting in a tyrannical and unjust manner, as pointed out, should be removed, such as the Governor Emfloos (of Haha), and others like unto him, and that judicious and honourable officers should be selected, who will not resort to extortion and take from His Majesty's subjects the means of earning their livelihood; and you repeat that the wealth and prosperity of the country depend upon the development of agriculture and the exportation of produce.

We know that what you have pointed out proceeds from your desire to promote the welfare of these realms and to strengthen the power of the Government, and to promote contentment and good-will on the part of the population towards our Lord the Sultan.

We submitted your letter to His Majesty, who has taken all you have said into consideration.

With regard to the revision of the Convention of Commerce, and the insertion in it of stipulations regarding the regulations which may be agreed upon by the foreign Representatives, in concert with Cid Mohammed Bargash, regarding the payment of gate dues by protected persons and the taxes upon agriculture, our Lord has written to Cid Mohammed Bargash to treat with you on these matters, and that whatever you may agree upon that he is to make it known to His Shereefian person, so that his clear understanding may take it into consideration.

With regard to what you say respecting the advantages which may be derived there-

from by the Government and country,* His Majesty puts faith in what you say on this subject.

With regard to the present impoverished state of the country, we have to remark that it has to be attributed chiefly to the droughts and dearth which God has inflicted on his servants.

With regard to your recommendation, that the Government should exert itself to improve the state of agriculture and trade in these dominions, thus it shall be, if it please God, and through him may it be accomplished.

The cultivation of the land, however, will depend much upon the seasons and upon the rain that may fall.

With regard to wax being sold only by the Governors near the districts of Darelbaida, the difficult times had caused those Governors to engage in this trade, so that they might improve their circumstances without resorting to pressure upon the people.

With regard to what you point out respecting the unjust proceedings of the Governors, our Lord the Sultan has turned his serious attention to these matters, and has ordered them to conduct their respective governments with justice, moderation, and leniency, and His Majesty has issued protests against those who may act in a contrary sense, and whosoever God may not turn from evil doings His Majesty will punish.

With regard to what you have said regarding your desire to promote the general welfare, our Lord desired us to say that he has had strong proofs of your friendship, good counsels, and anxious desire to promote the prosperity of these realms, and your persistence in seeking for it. His Majesty prays God for your welfare, and His Majesty ordered us to thank you, which we now do in pursuance of the verbal orders His Majesty has given us, and also to express His Majesty's good wishes for your health and happiness.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN MOKTSAR.

No. 33.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. . Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 22, 1881.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 11th instant, relative to the revision of the existing Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco.

The best course of proceeding in the matter will be for you to prepare the draft of the new Treaty in the exact form in which you think it should be framed, and to send this draft home for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. I have to request that you will send with it a statement which shall be complete in itself, without reference to other papers, explanatory of the provisions of the proposed new Treaty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 34.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received February 9.)

(No. 3. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, February* 2, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 1, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo, relative to the revision of the Commercial Convention, and directing me to prepare a draft of the new Convention in the exact form in which I think it should be framed, and to send the draft for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

The dilatory habits of all Moorish officers in the transaction of business, and the necessity of a reference to the Moorish Court regarding the slightest alteration that may be proposed, will, I expect, cause the negotiation to draw on for months, especially as I find there are strong feelings of reluctance to reduce the export duties in the Tariff, whilst it will be a difficult task to convince the Sultan's officers that by lowering duties they will not only benefit trade and the population, but also the Sultan's revenue.

* The revision of the Convention, &c.—J. H. D. H.

Until I can form a correct opinion regarding the modifications which this Government may be disposed to admit, it would perhaps be premature to prepare the draft to be submitted for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 35.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 2. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 12, 1881.

I CONCUR in the suggestion made in your despatch No. 3, Commercial, of the 2nd instant, that you should defer the preparation of the draft of a proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco until you are more fully acquainted with the views of the Moorish Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 36.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received March 1.)

(No. 4. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, February* 22, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 12th instant, approving of the suggestion that I should defer the preparation of the draft of a proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco until I am more fully acquainted with the views of the Moorish Government, as reported in my despatch No. 3, Commercial, of the 2nd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 37.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 22.)

(No. 8. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, April* 15, 1881.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches No. 1 of the 22nd January and No. 2 of the 12th February, and to my despatch No. 3 of the 2nd February, relative to the revision of the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco, I regret to inform your Lordship that very little progress has been made in the negotiation regarding the alterations and additions I have proposed to introduce in the stipulations, for though Cid Mohammed Bargash has generally signified his approval of the new Articles or additional paragraphs, he distinctly declares that he can give no definite replies without the sanction of the Sultan.

Cid Mohammed Bargash's views upon commerce are liberal, but his apprehension of giving grounds for the slightest dissatisfaction on the part of the Sultan prevents him from expressing a decided opinion upon points even of the most trivial character.

I have the honour to submit the draft I have prepared of the new Convention and Tariff, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, which I have presented to Cid Mohammed Bargash, with the distinct understanding, however, that if approved by the Sultan it will have to be approved also by Her Majesty's Government.

I have put it into this form instead of recopying the Articles of the existing Convention, which I propose should be retained, as, in the first place, I find it quite impossible for the Confidential Clerk to get through the work of the Legation, even though he is most assiduous in his duties, and, secondly, because I think that in the present form the alterations and additions will be more easily noted by the reader, whilst the annexed observations will explain the grounds upon which I have proposed them.

I further inclose a Memorandum of suggestions I have made to this Government for the general improvement of trade and the customs revenue, and also the translations of

the letter I addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash, and of his reply, transmitting him translations of the draft of the new Convention and of the aforesaid documents.

Previously to preparing the draft of the Convention and new Tariff, I had asked for the opinions of British Vice-Consuls at the Moorish ports, of the Chamber of Commerce of Gibraltar, and of several merchants.

I should have desired in the interest of trade that there should be no export duties, but it would be a hopeless task to seek to obtain this object. All that I can endeavour to do, as was done in the Convention of 1856, is to urge a reduction of duties in the Tariff, and the removal of obstructions which are prejudicial to trade.

Your Lordship will observe that the number of Articles introduced in the new Tariff greatly exceed that in the present Tariff.

I have further to remark, with reference to those passages in my letter to Cid Mohammed Bargash, where I dwell especially upon the advantages which will accrue to the Sultan's revenue should His Majesty accede to my recommendations, that I resorted to this argument knowing that the Sultan and his advisers have at heart the benefit which may be derived by the Treasury rather than the welfare of the population and the development of trade: I therefore wished to satisfy His Majesty that I have also duly considered a matter which is of such importance to them.

This Government is noted for its dilatoriness in all business, and I expect that the Sultan will refer to the Governors and Administrators of Customs at the ports to await their opinion before any decision is come to on the various alterations I have suggested, and, therefore, I can hardly expect a reply before two months have elapsed.

Cid Mohammed Bargash has also given me to understand that he has requested the Sultan to appoint another Plenipotentiary to aid him in the negotiation, when the Sultan signifies his views and wishes regarding the propositions contained in the draft of the new Convention and Tariff, and authorizes him to treat with me thereupon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Memorandum of Observations on Articles of Revised Convention of Commerce communicated to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

Article I.—It is urged that the Sultan should direct that the clause marked in red ink referring to Article IV of the General Treaty be carried into execution, and that the Government should discontinue the building of houses and stores at the demand of foreign subjects. Vexatious questions are thereby constantly created, and the Sultan does not receive a profitable return for the outlay that has been incurred. Foreign subjects who arrive in Morocco without capital or means of trading frequently demand that houses and stores be built by the Government, which otherwise they would never have undertaken to build at their own expense.

It sometimes occurs that after the Moorish Government has constructed the buildings, the foreign subject dies or becomes bankrupt, and difficulty is experienced in finding tenants. This advice has been repeatedly urged by the Undersigned.

Article II.—Sulphur and saltpetre are smuggled in large quantities into the country. The sale of Government sulphur at the ports is almost null, but it is notorious that at every grocer's shop sulphur is sold, though it has not been bought from the Government stores. Removal of the prohibition and the imposition of 10 per cent. duty, as on other imported goods, would put a stop to smuggling and improve custom receipts. Sword blades, daggers, and pistols are smuggled in large quantities into the ports; removal of prohibition and 10 per cent. duty would check the smuggling of these articles and benefit the revenue.

Article III.—These paragraphs are introduced in accordance with Article XIII of the Madrid Convention.

Article IV.—The additional paragraph is based upon Article X of the Madrid Convention of 1880 and Article IV of the French Convention of 1863.

Old Article V.—This old Article should be annulled as being obstructive and generally injurious to trade. When grain is scarce and prices are high exportation would cease without a prohibition being imposed, for the merchant can make no profit by exporting a high-priced article, as happened in the years 1878 and 1879, when the exportation of grain ceased and large quantities of wheat, flour, &c., were imported into Morocco.

Old Article VI is made new Article V.

New Article VI.—The removal of prohibitions and the reduction of export duties will promote trade and increase the customs revenue of the Sultan, as experience in Great Britain and other countries has proved. Other foreign Governments do not levy duties on exports, encouraging thus the industry of farmers and manufacturers.

The reduction of the duty upon fine cloth to 5 per cent., and upon silk, brocades, gold thread, amber and coral necklaces, and beads to 2½ per cent., is urged, as these articles have hitherto been smuggled into the country.

There is a large consumption of these goods throughout Morocco, but from the official Returns obtained by me from the Custom-house officers, there are no entries of duties levied on such goods at some of the ports, and at others the amount of duty paid is insignificant. The advice offered is disinterested in every respect, for these articles are generally imported from foreign countries and not from Great Britain; but the aim of the Undersigned is the general development of trade through legal channels and to check smuggling.

The paragraph commencing "The Sultan of Morocco has the right" down to "stated in the Tariff" to be annulled (see Article V). The duties of the new Tariff are all fixed in dollars and reals vellon, which are current in Morocco, as the exchange of the base copper Moorish coin is constantly rising, creating thereby much embarrassment to trade.

Article VII.—The additional paragraph will be very advantageous to the Moorish population and beneficial to trade.

It frequently occurs that prices of grain and other articles at one port are double what they are at a port a few hours distant by steamer.

By the proposed arrangements, if strictly adhered to, irregularities will be put a stop to which may have hitherto occurred.

Article VIII.—This additional paragraph is based on Article XIII of the Madrid Convention.

Article IX.—The Tariff for port dues is based upon Article XXXIX and XL of the Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861.

The paragraph at the end of this Article is added with the view of admitting the right of the Moorish Government, when works are constructed for the benefit of shipping, to levy an additional rate upon vessels as may hereafter be fixed.

Article XIII.—Is based upon Article XI of the Convention of Madrid of 1880.

Article XIV.—Is based upon Article XI of the Convention of Madrid of 1880.

Article XV.—Is based upon Article XXXVIII of the Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861.

Article XVI.—Is based upon Article LVIII of Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861.

Article XVIII.—Is based upon Article LX of Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Memorandum of Suggestions for the Improvement of Commerce, communicated in Letter of Sir J. H. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

WEIGHTS, measures, and duties to be identic at all the ports.

2. Grain to be dutied by weight, viz., quintal of 112 lbs. English.

3. Duties to be paid on the nail.

4. The prosperity of the population of Morocco, the receipts of the Treasury, the increase and welfare of trade, depend in great measure upon the development of agricultural produce.

So long as Governors continue to confiscate the property of farmers, and to extort money under false pretences from the peasantry, there can be no security for life and property. The people will neither have the means nor the desire to cultivate land when their earnings are taken from them. This system must be put a stop to with an iron hand by the Sultan if His Majesty desires the welfare of his people, and that Morocco should be assimilated to other countries in wealth and power.

If the Governors were ordered not to levy taxes or other dues, without giving a receipt for the money or property they take possession of, to the owner, such a measure might aid in checking the corruption and extortion which prevail.

5. Loans of money to favoured merchants by Sultan to be discontinued.
6. Governors and customs officials at the ports not to be allowed to trade.
7. That a good copper coinage be struck instead of the base coin as now made in moulds, which is forged, in large quantities, causing great loss to the Treasury and prejudice to trade and to the population in general.
8. Prohibitions on exportation of grain to be discontinued, as grain, when scarce and prices high, would not be exported, for no profit would accrue to merchants thereby.
9. Rewards to be offered to persons giving such information as may enable the Government to seize smuggled goods, to be fixed at a fourth of the value of the goods seized.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 37.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) *April* 13, 1881.

I INCLOSE herewith translations, as requested, of the draft of the revised Convention and Tariff, which contains the additions and alterations it is proposed should be made, and which are marked in red ink. I trust that His Majesty the Sultan, in his wisdom, will accede to them, as the object we have in view is the development of trade, the improvement of the revenue, and the general prosperity of His Majesty's subjects.

The draft of the revised Convention has not yet been submitted to Her Majesty's Government, and therefore their approval and consent will also be required.

I request you to call His Majesty's especial attention to the observations I have made upon the additional paragraphs to the Articles of the Convention of 1856 and alterations in the Tariff.

With regard to the new Articles, it will be found that they are based upon existing Treaties between Morocco and other foreign Powers.

I have further to request, that His Majesty take into serious consideration the various suggestions I have made in the Memorandum which is annexed.

It is of the utmost importance that the propositions which have been made for the development of agriculture and trade should not be submitted to Oolama, who, though learned in law and history, have no experience or knowledge of trade. If His Majesty seeks for counsels I would recommend that a Commission be formed of Administrators of Customs and Revenue, and that they be directed to report their opinion for the guidance of His Majesty, upon whose wisdom, however, and well-known desire to improve the state of his dominions and to cement the alliance and ties of friendship between the two Governments, I chiefly look to.

When I commenced the Convention of Commerce of 1856 and proposed the reduction of duties on exports and imports and the abolition of monopolies and favouritism, Sultan Mulai Abderrahman was advised by his Ministers and Oolama not to alter the regulations regarding trade established by his ancestors, as they declared it would ruin the Treasury and trade. Mulai Abderrahman turned a deaf ear to these ignorant counsellors, for His Majesty was convinced I could have no other object in view than his welfare and that of his subjects. His Majesty then appointed his Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Cid Mohammed Khateeb, as Plenipotentiary to treat with me, and ordered that he should accept the chief points I had proposed as the basis for the negotiation of the Convention of 1856. Sultan Cid Mohammed, ten years afterwards, when trade had increased threefold, thanked me in person, in an audience I had with His Majesty at Rabat, adding, "Half the customs revenues is now paid to Spain for the debt; the interest on the loan made in England is also paid out of the customs receipts, and yet the balance paid into the Treasury is greater than the entire customs revenues before the Convention of Commerce of 1856 was concluded."

Let His Majesty Mulai Hassan be also convinced that Her Majesty's Government and their Representative are disinterested in the advice they offer, and that it is their anxious aim and sincere desire to see the general improvement and welfare of Morocco and the development of trade. No special concessions are sought for British subjects. Whatever is acceded to in the revised Convention should be granted also to all other foreign Governments and subjects.

The exportation of cereals of all kinds is especially urged upon the consideration of the Sultan. Upon the development of agriculture and the exportation of cereals chiefly depend the prosperity of the population, and consequently the receipts of the Treasury.

The wealth and power attained by other foreign Governments prove this. I have to draw especial attention to the remarks I have made in paragraph 4 of the Memorandum, containing suggestions for the improvement of trade.

Great change and reductions have taken place in foreign countries in the prices of agricultural produce.

The amount of grain and food exported by the United States to Europe is enormous and increases annually.

Prices of food have consequently fallen, and grain exported from Morocco cannot compete in the markets of Europe with that of the United States under the present high duties imposed at the ports of Morocco.

Let these duties be reduced as soon as possible, even before the Convention is signed; increased exportation will make up any deficit from the reduced duties. If it is argued that the farmers will solely be the gainers thereby such a result will be desirable, for it will encourage them to increase cultivation.

For the same reasons the cultivation and the exportation of wheat and barley should be encouraged.

Article V of the old Convention about prohibition on grain is only a trammel on trade, and should be annulled. When prices rise no merchant will export, but will import, as happened in 1878 and 1879.

It is to be hoped that His Majesty the Sultan Mulai Hassan will not listen to the advice of those ignorant persons who say, "The duties fixed in the time of Sultan Mulai Abderrahman should not be changed, as His Majesty was a wise Sovereign."

I have always said that Mulai Abderrahman was a very wise Sovereign, but times have changed, prices have changed since 1856, nations and Governments have become and are growing more powerful and wealthier through the development of agriculture and trade, but Morocco remains stationary, and if nothing is done to improve the present state of affairs by the development of its resources, this Government and country will sink into an insignificance which may even render its very existence precarious.

I am persuaded that His Majesty in his wisdom, after mature consideration of the advice I have proffered, will acknowledge that I am animated solely by sentiments of friendship and goodwill, and a desire to promote His Majesty's welfare and that of His Majesty's subjects.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 37.

Cid Mohammed Bargash to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 14 *Joomad*, 1298 (*April* 14, 1881).

WE have received your letter transmitting the draft of the Convention containing the alterations, &c., upon which explanations are given, and you have requested that we communicate them to His Shereefian Majesty, in order that His Majesty may take them into consideration.

In a matter of such importance, you well understand that considerable time will be required for its consideration and for references to be made in writing to various places with the view of consultation, and therefore the replies cannot be received until after a lengthened têrm, so that the subject may be thoroughly comprehended.

We have reason to believe also that it is the intention of His Majesty to send hereafter a Plenipotentiary to treat especially with you upon this affair, and we have made this known to you for your information.

Peace.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BARGASH.

No. 38.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 22.)

(No. 9. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, April* 15, 1881.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 8 of this date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the German Minister, M. Weber, called upon me the other day, and inquired whether I had made progress in the revision of the Commercial Convention. He

informed me that he had not yet concluded a Treaty between Germany and Morocco, and that his instructions were to frame the Treaty upon the stipulations of the General Treaty and Convention of Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco, and he would therefore feel obliged if I would communicate to him any new or altered stipulations which it is proposed to introduce into the revised Convention of Commerce.

I informed M. Weber that though I had prepared a draft of the revised Convention which I had communicated verbally to Cid Mohammed Bargash, he had not as yet given me any definite reply regarding the acceptance of the altered stipulations or of the amended Tariff, and, further, that I had not yet submitted these documents to Her Majesty's Government for their consideration and approval, though, from my past reports, they were generally informed of my views regarding the stipulations which I proposed to introduce into the revised Convention.

Under these circumstances, I said that I could not properly put into his hands the draft in question, though I had no objection to read to him some of the alterations I proposed should be introduced, which were based upon the Madrid Convention of last year and the French Agreement of 1863, and the Treaty between Spain and Morocco of 1861.

I observed to M. Weber that, as I thought it would be desirable, should the German and British Governments enter upon negotiations simultaneously regarding the stipulations they desired to introduce into their respective Treaties or Conventions for the improvement of trade, that the counsels and action of their Representatives should be, as far as it was practicable, identic, for it would be less embarrassing to the Moorish Government, whilst a joint action would strengthen the advice or suggestions we may have to urge upon the attention of this Government.

Under these circumstances, I remarked that I should suggest to Her Majesty's Government that I be authorized to put confidentially in his hands the draft of the revised Convention and Tariff after it had been submitted to and corrected by Her Majesty's Government, requesting reciprocity on his part by the communication to me of any stipulations which he might propose to introduce into the Treaty between Germany and Morocco differing from the stipulations between Great Britain and Morocco.

Should your Lordship approve of the language I have held to M. Weber, I trust that I may be authorized to act accordingly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 39.

Mr. Gray to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received April 25.)

Sir, *Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade, April* 23, 1881.

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to transmit to you, for the consideration of Earl Granville, a letter that has been received by this Department relative to the revision of the Treaty between this country and Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS GRAY.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Mr. Thorburn to Sir T. Farrer.

Dear Sir, *Leith, April* 19, 1881.

WE shall be much obliged by your informing us when the Treaty of Commerce with Morocco is to be revised. We beg you to excuse this trouble meanwhile. We are, &c.
(Signed) JOHN HAY THORBURN.

No. 40.

Messrs. Thorburn and Co. to Earl Granville.—(Received April 28.)

My Lord, *Leith, April* 27, 1881.

HAVING been informed by our friends at Casablanca that the Treaty with Morocco was to be revised, and learning from your favour of yesterday that it is now going on, we

beg to call your attention to the fact that the stuff called "palmetto" in its natural or manufactured state is not allowed to be exported. It grows in large quantities, and is used for paper making. If its exportation were allowed, a large trade could be done to the advantage of all concerned. If you can therefore get this rectified in the new Treaty you will confer a boon on many, and give a new impetus to trade in that direction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. HAY THORBURN AND Co.

No. 41.

Earl Granville to Count Münster.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, May* 19, 1881.

WITH reference to the communication which your Excellency was good enough to make to me recently on the subject of commercial relations with Morocco, I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government are very willing to agree to the proposal of the German Government, that the British and German Representatives at Tangier should co-operate for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties with that country.

Sir J. H. Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to the Sultan of Morocco, has communicated informally to the Moorish Government the draft of a new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco. This draft is under revision at this Office, and as soon as it is finally settled I shall have much pleasure in communicating it confidentially to your Excellency. I shall be glad to receive in course of time, in the like manner, a copy of the proposed Treaty between Germany and Morocco. And I shall request Sir J. H. Drummond Hay on his return to his post to co-operate in these negotiations with his German colleague, to whom I would suggest that similar instructions should be addressed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 42.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Sir R. Herbert.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 21, 1881.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a copy of the draft of a proposed new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between this country and Morocco.*

I am to request that, in laying this draft before the Earl of Kimberley, you will move his Lordship to cause Lord Granville to be informed whether, in view of the very limited obligations which will be undertaken by this country, the text, as regards the Colonies and foreign possessions of Her Majesty, may stand in its present form, or whether the special Colonial Article, as contained in the proposed draft of Treaty with Montenegro, should be inserted.

I am at the same time to suggest that, if it is thought expedient, the Governor of Gibraltar might be instructed to communicate at once with Sir J. Hay with respect to any provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 43.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Mr. Reilly.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 21, 1881.

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th June, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you copies of the draft of proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco,* containing the text as suggested in the consultations which took place during Sir J. Hay's recent stay in London. As the duration of his stay did not allow of

* Inclosure in No. 45.

the text being finally revised before he left England copies have been sent to Tangier, in order that Sir J. Hay may make any further suggestions which he may desire to submit for consideration.

In the meanwhile, I am to transmit to you the accompanying copies, and to inquire whether, as regards the legal questions to be dealt with, and especially points in connection with the subject of jurisdiction, the text as it now stands rightly expresses your meaning. It has been suggested to Sir J. Hay that it may be more convenient to add to the proposed Convention, in the form of annexes, the stipulations of the Convention of Madrid referred to in Articles III, IV, and XIV. The last paragraph of Article XVI as it stands seems to be somewhat vague.

I am to state, in conclusion, that it would be convenient to receive your further opinion in this matter before the Long Vacation; and I am to request that, in the event of your suggesting alterations in the draft of Treaty, you will be so good as to return one of the copies now sent with the alterations suggested marked in the margin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 44.

Sir Charles W. Dilke to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 4. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, July 21, 1881.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith copies of the draft of proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco,* containing the text as suggested in the consultations which took place during your late stay in London. As the duration of your stay did not allow of the text being finally revised before you left London, I am to request that you will further consider it, and send back one of these copies with any corrections that seem to you to be expedient marked in the margin.

The following observations are offered for your consideration. In settling the Tariff contained in Article VI, it would seem that it might be better arranged, for example, according to the descriptions of goods enumerated under the heads of agricultural produce, animals, articles of food, manufactures, &c.; secondly, might it not be more convenient to add to the proposed Treaty, in the form of annexes, the precise stipulations in the Convention of Madrid referred to in Articles III, IV, and XIV of the inclosed draft; thirdly, the phraseology of Article XI would seem to be capable of further amendment, and it might be better to place this Article immediately before the present Article XVII; fourthly, would there be objection to unite Articles XV and XVI.

I inclose, for your more complete information and guidance, the accompanying copies of letters to Mr. Reilly and the Colonial Office.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES W. DILKE.

No. 45.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15.)

(No. 14. Commercial.)

Tangier, August 5, 1881.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Charles Dilke's despatch No. 4, Commercial, of the 21st ultimo, transmitting two copies of the proposed new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco, and directing me to return one of the copies with such observations as may seen to me to be expedient marked in the margin.

I return, as directed, the draft of the Convention containing my observations on the queries which have been put.

With regard to the second query, whether it would not be more convenient to add to the proposed Convention, in the form of annexes, the precise stipulations in the Convention of Madrid referred to in Articles III, IV, and XIV, I see no objection, but I have to remark that Article X of the Convention of Madrid referred to in Article IV of the accompanying draft on the subject of "brokers" does not explain how these agents are to be protected, but merely declares that the French Agreement of 1863 shall remain in force.

* Inclosure in No. 45.

† Nos. 42 and 43.

With reference to the query put in Sir Charles Dilke's letter to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, as to the advisability of introducing in the Convention with Morocco the Special Colonial Article XIV, of which a copy has been sent me, I have the honour to observe that there would be no objection to the introduction of such an Article, though, it appears to me, it would not be necessary, as the Moorish Government has never raised, nor would be likely to raise, any question upon the rights of British subjects or vessels who belong to the colonies and foreign possessions of Her Majesty enjoying all the privileges ceded in the proposed Convention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Draft of Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco.

[Signed in the English and Arabic languages, at Tangier, 188 .]

HER MAJESTY the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez, being desirous to extend and improve the relations of commerce and navigation which exist between their respective dominions and subjects, have resolved to conclude a special Convention for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir John Hay Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez;

And His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez, Seed Mohammed Bargash, His Minister for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce between the British dominions and the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco. The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty may reside in and trade to any port of the territories of the Sultan of Morocco to which any other foreigners are or shall be admitted.

They shall be permitted to hire houses, and to build houses, stores, or warehouses, as stipulated in Article IV of the General Treaty of the 9th December, 1856.

They shall enjoy full protection for their persons and properties, as specified in Article IV of the General Treaty; they shall be allowed to buy from, and to sell to, whom they like, all articles not prohibited in or under Article II of this Convention, either by wholesale or retail, at all places in the Moorish dominions, without being restrained or prejudiced by any monopoly, contract, or exclusive privilege of purchase or sale whatever, except the articles of export and those of import enumerated in Article II; and they shall, moreover, enjoy all other rights and privileges which hereafter may be granted to any other foreigners, subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

The subjects of the Sultan of Morocco shall, in return, enjoy in the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty the same protection and privileges which are or may be enjoyed by the subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE II.

The Sultan of Morocco engages that there shall be in his dominions no monopolies or prohibitions of imported goods except tobacco, pipes of all kinds used for smoking, opium, powder, lead, ammunition of war and arms of all kinds (other than sword-blades, daggers, and pistols); and further, that there shall be no monopolies of agricultural produce, or of any other article whatsoever in the dominions of the Sultan, except tobacco, and other herbs used for smoking in pipes.

ARTICLE III.

No tax, toll, duty, or charge whatsoever, beside the gate-tax on beasts of burthen carrying goods, and the export duty hereinafter mentioned, shall, under any pretext or on any account, be imposed by any person whatever, in any part of the dominions of Morocco, upon or in respect of any goods or produce whatsoever which may have been purchased for exportation by or on behalf of any British subject; but the said goods or produce, when so purchased, shall be conveyed from any place in Morocco to, and embarked from, any port therein, absolutely free and exempt from all other taxes or duties. No officer or subject of the Sultan shall offer any impediment to, or lay any restriction on, the conveyance or embarkation of such goods, or on any pretext demand or receive any money in respect or on account of such goods; and should any such officer or subject act contrary to this stipulation, the Sultan shall immediately punish with severity the Governor, officer, or other subject who shall have been guilty of such misconduct, and render full justice to British subjects for all injuries or losses which they may duly prove themselves to have suffered thereby.

ARTICLE IV.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty within the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan shall be free to manage their own affairs themselves, or to commit those affairs to the management of any persons whom they may appoint as their broker, factor, or agent; nor shall such British subjects be restrained in their choice of persons to act in such capacities; nor shall they be called upon to pay any salary or remuneration to any person whom they shall not choose to employ; but those persons who shall be thus employed, and who are subjects of the Sultan of Morocco, shall be treated and regarded as other subjects of the Moorish dominions. Absolute freedom shall be given in all cases to the buyer and seller to bargain together, and no interference on the part of the Sultan's officers shall be permitted. Should any Governor or other officer interfere in the bargains between British and Moorish subjects, or place any impediments in the lawful purchase or sale of goods or merchandize imported into, or to be exported from, the Sultan's dominions, His Shereefian Majesty shall severely punish the said officer for such misconduct.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty who are merchants doing business on a large scale on imports and exports within the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan, whether on their own account or on that of others, shall be further entitled to select two brokers at each of the ports where they may have houses of business. These brokers shall be placed under the jurisdiction and protection of British Consular officers, and all the provisions of the Agreement or Convention of 1863 between France and Morocco respecting brokers, referred to in or under Article X of the Convention of Madrid of the 3rd July, 1880, shall apply to brokers acting on behalf of such British subjects.

ARTICLE V.

Merchandize or goods, except the articles enumerated in Article II, imported by British subjects in any vessel, or from any country, shall not be prohibited in the territories of the Sultan of Morocco, nor be subject to higher duties than are levied on the same kind of merchandize or goods imported by the subjects of any other foreign Power, or by native subjects, after the date of this Convention.

All articles, except those enumerated in Article II, the produce of Morocco, may be exported therefrom by British subjects in any vessels, on as favourable terms as by the subjects of any other foreign country, or by native subjects.

ARTICLE VI.

In consideration of the favourable terms upon which the produce of Morocco is admitted into the territories of Her Britannic Majesty, and with a view to the extension of commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Morocco, for their mutual advantage, His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco hereby agrees that the duties to be levied on all articles imported into the territories of His Majesty by British subjects shall not exceed 10 per cent. in cash on their value at the ports of their disembarkation; and that the duties to be levied on all articles exported from the territories of His Majesty by British subjects shall not exceed in amount the duties marked in the following Tariff:—

Tariff of Exports.

Goods comprised in British Tariff of 1856.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Wheat	Strike fanega	10	Tallow	Cantar	20
Maize and durra	Full fanega	5	Mules	Head	400
Barley	Strike fanega	5	Donkeys	,,	60
All other grain	Cantar	5	Sheep	,,	10
Flour	,,	12	Goats	,,	8
Bird-seed	,,	5	Fowls	Dozen	10
Dates	,,	15	Eggs	1,000	20
Almonds	,,	15	Slippers	..	5 per cent. *ad val.**
Oranges, lemons, and limes	1,000	4			
Wild marjoram	Cantar	4	Porcupine quills	1,000	2
Cummin-seed	,,	10	Grasool	Cantar	5
Oil	,,	20	Ostrich feathers	Lb.	20
Gums	,,	10	Baskets	100	10
Henna	,,	6	Carraway-seed	Cantar	5
Wax	,,	40	Combs of wood	100	2
Rice	,,	5	Hair	Cantar	15
Wool, washed	,,	45	Raisins	,,	10
,, in grease	,,	21	Woollen sashes called "karaay"	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Hides, sheep and goat skins	,,	16			
Tanned skins, called "felaly," "zawany," and "cochinea"	,,	50	Tackawt (a dye)	Cantar	10
			Tanned fleeces	,,	15
Horns	1,000	6	Hemp and flax	,,	12

Goods Tariffed subsequent to British Treaty.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Amber	Cantar	..	Ostrich eggs	Each	½
Aniseed	,,	10	Parings of hides, for making glue	Cantar	4
Biscuits	,,	8	Partridges	Each	1
Blankets	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Pears	Cantar	8
			Rabbits	Each	1
Carpets, fine	..	Ditto	Rags	Cantar	5
,, ordinary	..	Ditto	Rose-leaves	,,	8
Cheese	Cantar	20	Sanush	,,	5
Cord of palmetto	100 bundles	8	Sesame	,,	8
Cushions	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Sieves	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
El jorf (cress-seed)	Cantar	10	Sparto grass	Cantar	3
Fasof (gum)	,,	10	Stirrups	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Goat-hair ropes	,,	10			
Haicks	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Tents, hair and palmetto	..	Ditto
			Tortoises	Cwt.	2½
Hares	..	1	Trays, brass, chased	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Holba (tenugreck)	Cantar	5			
Jellabs	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	,, plain	..	Ditto
			Tripes	Cantar	10
Kermes (dye)	Cantar	10	Walnuts	,,	8
Leather bags	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Woollen thread	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Lentils	Cantar	5	,, socks	..	Ditto
Linseed	,,	5	Zerguina (dye)	Cantar	5
Orchilla	,,	10	Rugs of palmetto	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*

Goods which are not in the Tariff, but are occasionally exported.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Bones	Cantar	3	Onions	Cwt.	4
Butter	,,	20	Salt fish	..	..
Canes	100	5	Soap	Cwt.	10
Honey	Cantar	10	Straw	,,	1
Brooms, palmetto	Cwt.	1½	Sumach "mergatta"	..	..
Crin or wool of palmetto	,,	2½	Wool, laris, and arrar	100 pieces	200
Osier	..	..	Khol	Cwt.	5

* 5 per cent. duty upon all articles manufactured in Morocco is proposed, with the view of encouraging Morocco manufacturers.

Goods which it is proposed should be exported.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Lead ore	Cwt. ..	5	Cork	Cwt. ..	4
Copper ore	,, ..	5	Salts, mineral and sea, including "cru de nitre"	,, ..	½
Iron ore	,, ..	2	Beef, salted	,, ..	..
Other minerals	,, ..	5	,, fresh	,, ..	..
Bark	,, ..	2			

Should the Sultan of Morocco think proper to reduce the duties on articles of exportation His Majesty shall have the right of doing so, on condition that British subjects shall pay the lowest duty that shall be paid by any other foreign or native subjects.

ARTICLE VII.

Should a British subject, or his agent, desire to convey by sea, from one port to another, in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco, goods upon which the 10 per cent. duty has been paid, such goods shall be subject to no further duty, either on their embarkation or disembarkation, provided they be accompanied by a certificate from a Moorish Administrator of Customs.

Grain and other articles, produce of Morocco, conveyed by sea from one port to another by British subjects, shall pay the duties fixed in the Tariff, and a receipt shall be given by the Customs officers.

On the disembarkation of the said articles at a port of Morocco, a note of their disembarkation shall be made on the receipt by the Custom-house officers to that effect, and, on presentation of the said noted receipt at the port where the goods were shipped, the duties shall be returned.

ARTICLE VIII.

If any article of Moroquine produce, growth, or manufacture, except the articles enumerated in Article II, be purchased for exportation, the same shall be conveyed by the British merchant, or by his agent, free of any kind of charge or duty whatsoever, except the gate-tax stated in Article III, to a convenient place of shipment. Subsequently, on exportation, the export duty according to the Tariff in Article VI shall alone be paid on it.

ARTICLE IX.

No anchorage, tonnage, import, or other duty or charge shall be levied in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco on British vessels, or on goods imported or exported in British vessels, beyond what is, or may be, levied on national vessels, or on the like goods imported or exported in national vessels; they shall not, however, exceed in amount the rates of the following scale, viz. :—

	Reals vellon.
Upon vessels not measuring more than 50 tons	20
Ditto, from 50 to 100 tons	40
Ditto, from 100 to 150 tons	60
Ditto, from 150 tons upwards	80

The rate of pilotage at the ports of Rabat and Laraiche. British vessels shall pay 80 cents of real per ton on entry and 80 cents of real per ton on departure.

No charge for anchorage shall be levied on account of British vessels which may enter the ports of Morocco for the purpose of seeking shelter from the weather, and which do not embark or discharge cargo, nor shall any charge for anchorage be levied upon fishing-vessels.

And, in like manner, no anchorage, tonnage, import or other duty or charge shall be levied in the British dominions on Moorish vessels, or on goods imported or exported in Moorish vessels, beyond what is or may be levied on national vessels, or on the like goods imported or exported in national vessels.

Should the Moorish Government construct breakwaters, quays, piers, or other improvements for the benefit of navigation, an equitable charge, as may be agreed upon between the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the foreign Representatives, shall be levied upon British vessels at the same rate as upon the vessels of other nations.

All vessels which according to British law are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which according to the law of Morocco are to be deemed Maroquine vessels,

shall for the purposes of this Treaty be respectively deemed British or Maroquine vessels.

ARTICLE X.

Should British subjects desire to embark in or discharge goods from vessels arriving in the ports of Morocco, they shall employ the Moorish Government boats for that purpose; but if within two days after the arrival of a vessel the Moorish Government boats are not placed at their disposal for the aforesaid purpose the British subjects shall have the right of employing private boats, and shall not pay, in such case, to the port authorities more than one-half of what would have been paid had they employed the Government boats. This regulation shall not be applicable to the ports of Tangier and Tetuan, inasmuch as there is a sufficient number of Government lighters at those two ports.

The charges now paid for lighterage at the different ports of Morocco shall not be augmented, and the Administrator of Customs at each port of Morocco shall deliver to the British Vice-Consul a Tariff of the charges now demanded for lighterage.

ARTICLE XI.

If a British subject be detected in smuggling into the Moroquine territories goods of any description, the goods shall be confiscated to the Sultan; and such British subject shall, on conviction before the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, be liable to be fined in an amount not exceeding treble the amount of duties leviable on such goods, or in case of goods not admitted to importation, treble the value of the goods at the current price of the day; and failing payment of such fines such British subject shall, on conviction before the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, be liable to be imprisoned; or, without being fined, any British subject, on conviction as aforesaid, may be imprisoned, but in either case for a time not exceeding one year, in such place as the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent may determine.

ARTICLE XII.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty shall be entitled to purchase land, houses, stores, or other immovable property. The purchase of immovable property shall not be effected until after the consent of the Moorish Government shall be obtained. The title-deeds and like documents shall be drawn up in accordance with the laws of Morocco. Should a question arise at any time regarding immovable property held by a British subject, it shall be decided by the law of Morocco, and the plaintiff or defendant, as the case may be, shall have the right of appeal to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, as laid down in Article IX of the General Treaty of the 9th December, 1856, between Great Britain and Morocco.

ARTICLE XIII.

British subjects shall have the right of fishing for and taking fish on the coast of Morocco.

British subjects shall also have the right of fishing for coral along the shores of Morocco.

The payment of 150 dollars shall be paid annually for each vessel engaged in this fishery. The masters of vessels who desire to fish coral shall apply, through the British Representative at Tangier, to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who shall issue a written authority, to be delivered to the applicant on the payment of the above-mentioned sum.

British subjects fishing coral without authority shall be fined according to the nature of the offence.

ARTICLE XIV.

The present Convention shall be applicable to all the ports in the Empire of Morocco now open to foreign trade; and should His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco open the ports of Mehedea, Agadeer, Wadnoon, or any other places within the limits of His Majesty's dominions, no difference shall be made in the levying of duties, or anchorage charges, between the said ports and those ports in the Sultan's dominions which are now open to foreign trade.

ARTICLE XV.

In order that the two High Contracting Parties may have the opportunity of hereafter treating and agreeing upon such other arrangements as may tend still further to the

improvement of their mutual intercourse and to the advancement of the interests of their respective subjects, it is agreed that at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Convention of Commerce and Navigation, either of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right to call upon the other to enter upon a revision of the same; but until such revision shall have been accomplished by common consent, and a new Convention shall have been concluded and ratified, the present Convention shall continue and remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XVI.

The present Convention shall be ratified by Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and by His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Tangier as soon as possible.

The stipulations of the present Convention shall come into operation on the expiration of four months after the exchange of the ratifications, and shall be substituted for the stipulations of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation of the 9th December, 1856, between Great Britain and Morocco.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Tangier,

No. 46.

Mr. Reilly to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(*Received August* 23.)

MR. REILLY presents his compliments to Sir Charles Dilke, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Charles Dilke's letter of yesterday relative to the Morocco Treaty. Mr. Reilly would long ago have answered the former letter therein referred to had he not been prevented from doing so by severe illness, from which he is not yet fully recovered.

21, *Delahay Street, Westminster, August* 23, 1881.

No. 47.

Mr. Reilly to Earl Granville.—(*Received August* 24.)

My Lord, 21, *Delahay Street, Westminster, August* 24, 1881.

IN the matter of the proposed Convention of Commerce and Navigation with Morocco, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Charles Dilke's letter of the 21st July, 1881, transmitting to me, by your Lordship's direction, copies of the draft, and, in effect, asking my opinion thereon.

In most respects, I have nothing to add to my letter of the 14th June, 1881.

But, as the application of the receipts from the land tax and from the fines levied in connection therewith is a matter of great practical importance, I advert to that point again. The Regulations mentioned in Article XIV of the draft Convention, of which Regulations a copy has been furnished to me from the Foreign Office, do not meet the points mentioned in my letter of the 14th June, 1881. It will be necessary, in my opinion, to supplement those Regulations.

In Article XV of the draft I think some such expression should be used as this, "fishing for and taking fish," especially regard being had to the terms of Article XVI of the draft.*

Sir Charles Dilke remarks on the vagueness of the last paragraph of Article XVI.* But I think that may be cured by the Order in Council.

Subject to the observations in my letter of the 14th June, 1881, and in this letter, I think the draft may be regarded as sufficient for its purpose in form and in substance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. S. REILLY.

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* The references to Articles here apply to the Draft as sent to Mr. Reilly on the 21st July: see No. 44.

No. 48.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 5. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 1, 1881.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 14, Commercial, of the 5th ultimo, returning a copy of the draft Treaty with Morocco, with your observations thereon, and I now transmit to you two copies of the draft as amended.

No reply has yet been received to the letter to the Colonial Office of the 21st July, of which a copy was communicated to you on the same day, but, subject to any alteration in, or addition to, the text of the Treaty as regards the Colonies and foreign possessions of Her Majesty which that Department may think necessary, Her Majesty's Government consider that the draft as it now stands is sufficient for its purpose in form and substance, and I have to request you to communicate one copy to the Moorish Government with this explanation.

I also inclose, for your information, copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Treasury,* with a view to such alteration of the new General Order in Council for Morocco as may be necessary to provide for the application of the receipts for the gate and land taxes, and fines levied in connection therewith, to the use of the Moorish Government.

In regard to this point, I have to request you to inform me whether it is clearly agreed that the fines are to go to the Moorish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 49.

Earl Granville to Herr Stumm.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *Foreign Office, September* 1, 1881.

WITH reference to my note of the 19th May to Count Münster, I have now the honour to transmit to you, for the confidential information of the German Government, a copy of the draft of the new Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco.†

This draft, which is finally amended, subject only to any alterations in or additions as regards its application to Her Majesty's Colonies and foreign possessions which may be considered necessary, has now been sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangiers for communication to the Moorish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 50.

Mr. Meade to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(*Received September* 2.)

Sir, *Downing Street, August* 30, 1881.

I AM directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st July, inclosing the draft of a proposed new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between this country and Morocco.

2. In reply, I am to request that you will state to Earl Granville that, as regards the Colonies, Lord Kimberley thinks the text of the Treaty may stand in its present form, and that his Lordship will instruct the Governor of Gibraltar to communicate with Sir J. Hay with respect to any provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports.

3. I am to add that Lord Kimberley thought it desirable to communicate with the Dominion of Canada on the subject of the proposed Convention, and that a telegram was received on the 27th instant, stating that Canada has no objection to being included in the Treaty.

4. I am to request to be furnished with 200 copies of the Convention when ratified, for transmission to the Colonies.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. H. MEADE.

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* To Treasury, August 30, 1881.

† Inclosure in No. 45.

No. 50 A.

M. Stumm to Mr. Lister.—(Received September 13.)

German Embassy, 9, Carlton House Terrace, September 13, 1881.

Dear Mr. Lister,

ALLOW me to appeal again to your amiability. In asking you yesterday for the two prints concerning the negotiations with Japan, I quite forgot to mention the wish of my Government to obtain also one or two more copies of the draft of your new Treaty with Morocco which I had the honour to receive with Lord Granville's note of the 1st September. I hope you will be able and kind enough to comply with this request, and, thanking you in advance, I have, &c.

(Signed) V. STUMM.

No. 50 B.

M. Stumm to Mr. Lister.—(Received September 19.)

M. STUMM presents his compliments to Mr. T. Villiers Lister, and begs to acknowledge with best thanks the receipt of two copies of the draft Convention of Commerce and Navigation to be concluded between Great Britain and Morocco, transmitted to him with the letter of the 16th instant.

German Embassy, September 17, 1881.

No. 51.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 16. Commercial.)

Tangier, September 17, 1881.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 5, Commercial, of the 1st instant, transmitting two copies of the draft Treaty with Morocco as amended, and informing me that, subject to any alteration or addition to the text as regards the Colonies, Her Majesty's Government consider that the draft, as it now stands, is sufficient for its purpose in form and substance.

Your Lordship also incloses, for my information, the copy of a letter addressed to the Treasury, with a view to such alterations of the new General Order in Council for Morocco as may be necessary to provide for the application of the receipts of the gate and land taxes and fines levied in connection therewith for the use of the Moorish Government, and directing me to inform your Lordship whether it is clearly agreed that the fines are to go to the Moorish Government.

In reply to this query, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that it was agreed that all fines levied on the account of the above taxation should be made over to the Moorish Government.

Cid Mohammed Bargash is still at Rabal, and I have addressed him a note inquiring when I am to expect the arrival of the Plenipotentiary to negotiate the Treaty.

I have been given to understand that Cid Mohammed Bargash has requested the Sultan to appoint another Plenipotentiary to treat with me, and that His Majesty will dispatch an officer for that purpose on his arrival at Morocco.

Under these circumstances, and as I shall deliver to Cid Mohammed Bargash the translations of the slight alterations which have been introduced into the original draft, of which he already possesses a translation, and as I had promised the German Minister, M. Weber, to give him a copy of amended draft as soon as I received it, I have given to the latter the spare copy.

I shall, therefore, feel obliged if your Lordship will direct that two more copies of the draft be sent me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 52.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 8. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, September 30, 1881.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT herewith, as requested in your despatch No. 16, Commercial, of the 17th instant, two more copies of the draft Convention of Commerce and Navigation between this country and Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 53.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Sir R. Lingen.

Foreign Office, October 5, 1881.

Sir,

I HAVE laid before Earl Granville your letter of the 22nd ultimo relative to the land and gate taxes and fines to be levied on British subjects in Morocco, and I am to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury that the fines in question have not been hitherto leviable. They are imposed by the new Regulations issued under the Madrid Convention, and it has been agreed between the Governments of Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco that they shall go to the local Government. Were it not for such agreement they would be payable to the British Exchequer, as in the case of all other fines levied in the British Consular Court.

This arrangement has necessitated the special provision proposed to be made in the new Morocco Order in Council.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 54.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Reilly.

Foreign Office, October 5, 1881.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th June, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith the draft of the new Order in Council for Morocco, and to request that you introduce into it the additions required by the new Treaty, as indicated in your above-mentioned letter.

A copy of the draft Treaty is inclosed for reference if necessary.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Inclosure in No. 54.

Morocco.

Draft Order in Council under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts.

Memorandum.

1. THERE is a very long history leading up to this draft Order in Council.

2. On 9 December, 1856, a General Treaty between the Queen and the Sultan of Morocco was signed at Tangier, Sir John (then Mr.) Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General in Morocco, being Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary for the negotiation and signing of the Treaty.

3. This Treaty provided for cases under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts in three Articles—VIII, IX, and XIV.

4. Article VIII, which relates to cases in which British subjects alone are concerned, is as follows:—

"In all criminal cases and complaints, and in all civil differences, disputes, or causes of litigation, which may occur between British subjects, the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, shall be the sole judge and arbiter. No Governor, Kadi, or other Moorish authority, shall intermeddle therein; but the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty shall, in all matters of criminal or civil cognisance, arising or existing between British subjects exclusively, be amenable to the Tribunal of the Consul-General, Consul, or other British authority only."

5. Article IX relates to cases in which British subjects and Moorish subjects are concerned, and is as follows:—

"All criminal causes and complaints, and all civil differences, disputes, or causes of litigation, arising between British subjects and subjects of the Moorish Government, shall be adjusted in the following manner:

"If the plaintiff be a British subject and the defendant a Moorish subject, the Governor of the town or district, or the Kadi, according as the case may appertain to their respective Courts, shall alone judge the case; the British subject making his appeal to the Governor, or Kadi, through the British Consul-General, Consul, or his deputy, who will have a right to be present in the Court during the whole trial of the case.

"In like manner, if the plaintiff be a Moorish subject, and the defendant a British subject, the case shall be referred to the sole judgment and decision of the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent; the plaintiff shall make his appeal through the Moorish authorities; and the Moorish Governor, Kadi, or other officer who may be appointed by them shall be present, if he or they so desire, during the trial and judgment of the case. Should the British or Moorish litigant be dissatisfied with the decision of the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, Governor, or Kadi (according as the case may appertain to their respective Courts), he shall have a right of appeal to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General, or to the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, as the case may be."

6. Article XIV relates to questions between British subjects and the subjects and citizens of other foreign nations in Morocco, and is as follows:—

"In all criminal cases, differences, disputes, or other causes of litigation arising between British subjects and the subjects or citizens of other foreign nations, no Governor, Kadi, or other Moorish authority shall have a right to interfere, unless a Moorish subject may have received thereby any injury to his person or property, in which case the Moorish authority, or one of his officers, shall have a right to be present at the Tribunal of the Consul.

"Such cases shall be decided solely in the Tribunals of the foreign Consuls, without the interference of the Moorish Government, according to the established usages which have hitherto been acted upon, or may hereafter be arranged between such Consuls."

7. On the same day (9 December, 1856) a Convention of Commerce and Navigation was signed at Tangier between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco. This Convention provides for reciprocal freedom of commerce. It stipulates that British subjects may reside in and trade to any part of Morocco to which any other foreigners are admitted. The Sultan engages to abolish all monopolies or prohibitions on imported goods, and all monopolies on agricultural produce or other articles, with exceptions specified. British subjects are to be free to manage their own affairs, or to commit them to the management of brokers or agents. A Tariff of maximum duties is provided. No anchorage or other duty is to be levied on British vessels, or on goods imported or exported in British vessels, beyond what is levied on national vessels, or on like goods imported or exported in national vessels, and is not to exceed in amount a scale laid down. If a British subject is detected in smuggling, the goods are to be confiscated to the Sultan, and, on his conviction before the British Consular authority, he is liable to be fined, and on failure of payment of the fine, to be imprisoned, or to be imprisoned, without being fined.

There is no Treaty or Convention in force between this country and Morocco except the Treaty and Convention of 9 December, 1856.—F. S. R.

8. On 27 August, 1857, an Order in Council was made, under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1843, for regulating the exercise of the Queen's power and jurisdiction in Morocco. This Order is still in force. It has the general form of Orders in Council for like purposes, passed about the time at which it bears date. It begins by ordering that British Consuls in Morocco shall have power (first) to carry into effect and to enforce the observance of the stipulations of any Treaty or Convention between the Queen and the Sultan; and (secondly) to make and enforce by fine or imprisonment, or both, Rules and Regulations for the observance of the stipulations of any such Treaty or Convention, and for the peace, order, and good government of British subjects in Morocco.

9. As will be seen by the subsequent history, this (second) power of making Rules and Regulations led immediately to difficulties, which have not to this day been surmounted, but which are intended to be got rid of by the proposed Order, now in Draft.

10. The Order in Council of 27 August, 1857, goes on to provide that any Consular Rule (the duplicate word Regulation may be dropped) to be enforced by a penalty should be transmitted to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for allowance or disallowance, and if disallowed, should cease to have effect from the receipt of the disallowance.

11. On 4 September, 1857, the Order in Council was sent to Sir John Drummond Hay.

This despatch and other papers are bound in a volume: "Morocco," 1856 to 1867.—F. S. R.

12. On 30 October, 1857, Sir John Drummond Hay sent Rules made by him to the Secretary of State. The Rules recited the provisions of the Order in Council relative to the making and enforcing of Consular Rules, and declared that these Rules had been drawn up by Her Majesty's Consul at Tangier, and were to be enforced on and after the 1st day of December next ensuing.

13. These Rules were unfortunately framed on an unsound plan. One error in principle running through them was this,—that many of them repeated the provisions of Articles of the Order in Council, sometimes with slight modification, sometimes with none.

14. On 7 December, 1857, these Rules were referred to the Law Officers.

15. By Report, dated 2 March, 1858, the Law Officers, then Sir John Harding, Sir Richard Bethell, and Sir Henry Keating, reported on the Rules. They stated that some of the Rules appeared to them to be too severe and arbitrary, and others to be worded in a vague and indefinite manner. They subjoined the remarks which had occurred to them (taking particular Rules in succession).

16. On 22 April, 1858, the Law Officers' opinion was sent to Sir John Drummond Hay, and he was instructed to revise the Rules.

17. On 23 April, 1858, Sir John Drummond Hay sent home seven further Regulations prepared by the British Vice-Consul, and approved of by Sir John Drummond Hay, arranging the manner in which cases between foreign subjects and British subjects were to be adjudicated on when foreign subjects are plaintiffs.

18. On 13 May, 1858, Sir John Drummond Hay returned the Rules revised, with explanations.

19. On 20 May, 1858, the seven further Regulations were referred to the Law Officers.

20. On 12 June, 1858, Sir John Drummond Hay's revised Rules were referred to the Law Officers.

21. On 17 June, 1858, the Law Officers, Sir John Harding, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, and Sir Hugh Cairns reported on the seven Regulations. They said that neither the Treaty nor the Convention (9 December, 1856) contained any stipulations with respect to Consular jurisdiction in cases where one of the parties is a British subject or under British protection, and another is the subject or under the protection of any other European country. They then examined the seven Regulations in detail, stated that they could not approve of them as they stood, and suggested that a new set of Rules should be drawn by some competent person and submitted to them for approval. They referred to their Report of 2 March on the General Consular Rules.

This was an oversight. Article XIV of the Treaty specifically provides for these cases (paragraph 6, above).—F. S. R.

22. On 26 June, 1858, the Law Officers (the same) reported shortly on the revised Rules. They did not go into particulars, but said that the framing of these Rules was a matter requiring the assistance of an experienced legal draftsman; and they suggested that the Papers should be laid before Mr. Coulson, Mr. Welsby, or some other competent person, who should be instructed to prepare a fresh set of Rules for their consideration.

23. On 3 July, 1858, the Law Officers' Report of 17 June on the seven Regulations was sent to Sir John Drummond Hay, and he was instructed to furnish any explanations or amendments. He was told that, as soon as his answer was received, both sets of Rules and Regulations would be placed in the hands of some professional gentleman, in order that they might be reduced to a proper shape, and then be submitted again to the Law Officers.

24. On 1 August, 1858, Sir John Drummond Hay sent his explanations as required.

25. On 16 September, 1858, all the Papers were again referred to the Law Officers.

26. On 2 October, 1858, the Law Officers (the same) reported that no further observations occurred to them as requiring further reference to Sir John Drummond Hay. They therefore suggested that the documents might be now placed in legal hands for preparation.

27. On 26 October, 1858, the Papers were sent to the Treasury, with a request that the Solicitor might be instructed to employ a competent person to reduce the Rules and seven Regulations into proper form with the least possible delay, in order that they might be again submitted to the Law Officers.

28. On 27 July, 1860, the Treasury transmitted a set of Draft Rules and returned the Papers.

29. On 25 August, 1860, these Draft Rules were sent to the Law Officers for their consideration and observations.

30. On 8 September, 1860, further Papers were sent to the Law Officers, and they were informed, in answer to an inquiry by them, that the Draft Rules had been prepared by Mr. Welsby.

31. On 20 November, 1860, the Law Officers, Sir John Harding, Sir Richard Bethell, and Sir William Atherton, reported on this reference. They stated that they had perused and considered the Draft. They thought it most desirable that Forms of Procedure, both Criminal and Civil, should accompany the Rules, although the extent to which this should be done must greatly depend on the circumstances

in which the Consular Courts in Morocco are placed; regard being had to the Order in Council, to the number, character, and dealings of British subjects within Morocco, and to the disposition of the Government and local authorities. The better course to be adopted at present would, in their opinion, be to submit again the Draft Rules to Mr. Welsby for his reconsideration, together with that Report, and copies of the Rules of the Supreme and other Consular Courts in the Ottoman Dominions, with the accompanying Forms, as prepared by Mr. Reilly, and approved by the Law Officers in their Report of 19 November instant, with a view to their adaptation to Morocco.

32. On 23 January, 1861, the Papers were sent again to the Treasury accordingly.

33. On 11 June, 1862, the Foreign Office informed the Treasury that no answer had been received to the letter of 23 January, 1861, and inquired the cause of the delay, and requested that Mr. Welsby's Report should be made at once.

At this point the volume of Papers ends. The subsequent Papers are separate. The principal one is the Instructions of the Solicitor of the Treasury to Mr. Archibald.—F. S. R.

34. On 5 August, 1869, the Foreign Office referred to the Treasury a question respecting fees on a grant of administration to the property of a deceased British subject in Morocco.

35. On 25 August, 1869, this letter was answered by the Treasury.

36. On 8 September, 1869, the Foreign Office sent to the Treasury a Memorandum showing what communications had passed with respect to the Rules, and suggested that the attention of the Solicitor should be called to the correspondence, in order that the question as to the proper Rules to be adopted in the Consular Courts in Morocco should be settled without further delay. This Memorandum stated that it did not appear that any reply was ever returned to the Foreign Office letter of January 1861 or to that of June 1862.

37. On 11 November, 1869, the Solicitor of the Treasury reported to the Lords of the Treasury. He stated to the effect that in February 1861 the Papers had been referred back to Mr. Welsby, and that the Solicitor wrote several letters to him calling his attention to the delay in returning the Rules, and that in May 1863, Mr. Welsby asked for a copy of the Treaty with Morocco, but that, after most careful search in the Treasury, no record of any other step in the matter could be found, nor could the Draft Rules on which the Law Officers had reported, or any copy thereof, be found. Mr. Welsby (he stated) died in 1864, and the instructions sent to him from the Solicitor of the Treasury were not returned. The Solicitor observed that it was possible that the Draft, with other Papers belonging to the Foreign Office, might have been returned after Mr. Welsby's death by his Clerk to the Foreign Office.

38. On 28 December, 1869, instructions were given by the Solicitor of the Treasury to Mr. (afterwards Mr. Justice) Archibald to prepare Rules, Regulations, and Forms, in accordance with the Foreign Office letters of 26 October, 1858, 23 January, 1861, and 8 September, 1869.

39. On 12 September, 1870, Mr. Archibald sent to the Solicitor of the Treasury four Drafts, which he described to this effect:

A.—Draft Rules for the observance of Treaties with Morocco.
B.—Draft Rules of Practice to be observed in proceedings before Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at , in Morocco.
C.—Draft Forms to be appended to the Rules of Practice.
D.—Draft Table of Fees to be appended to the Rules of Practice.

40. Mr. Archibald observed that in preparing the Rules of Practice he had, as far as they were applicable, followed those in force in the Supreme and other Courts in China and Japan. But, in adapting them to proceedings in Morocco, he had endeavoured both to modify them in conformity with the Treaty, and also to simplify them, as far as practicable, having regard to the circumstance that the

Consuls in Morocco would probably have little or no assistance from qualified legal practitioners in carrying them into effect.

41. Mr. Archibald's Drafts were printed, and, as printed, form a folio volume of 144 pages.

42. On 6 February, 1871, the Law Officers, Sir Robert Collier, Sir John Coleridge, and Sir Travers Twiss, in consultation with Mr. Archibald, wrote on his Drafts. They said they had perused and approved them. They observed that it would be necessary to amend Sections Eight and Nine of the Order in Council of 27 August, 1857, which were not, in their opinion, in conformity with the Treaty.

43. On 9 March, 1874, some Papers were transmitted to me from the Foreign Office in relation to a question which had arisen as to the competency of British Consular Courts in Morocco to try suits between British subjects and foreigners not being Moorish subjects. The Law Officers (it was stated) had been of opinion that, under the Order in Council of 1857, such suits could not be properly tried, and that in order to remedy the matter a new Order in Council should be passed. There were also transmitted to me the Instructions, with the documents thereto annexed, forwarded to Mr. Archibald in 1869, and my particular attention was directed to the opinion recorded by the Law Officers that Sections Eight and Nine of the Order in Council were not in conformity with the Treaty. I was requested to take the whole subject into consideration, and to furnish such a Draft of a new Order in Council as I might consider would meet the points in which the one now in force is deficient.

44. On 25 March, 1874, I received formal instructions to the like effect from the Solicitor of the Treasury.

45. On 20 July and 1 August, 1874, further Papers on this subject were sent to me.

46. On 3 August, 1874, I sent to the Foreign Office the Draft of an Order in Council relative to suits in Morocco between British subjects and foreigners not being Moorish subjects, and a Memorandum on the whole matter. This Memorandum, with other Papers relative thereto, was afterwards printed for the use of the Foreign Office, 16 April, 1875 [311], and those printed Papers, with the Foreign Office note thereon of 7 April, 1875, may be referred to. That note points out that the first question dealt with in the Memorandum—namely, that respecting suits between British subjects and foreigners, not being Moorish subjects, had been settled by the amending Order in Council of 4 February, 1875 (of which I had prepared the Draft).

47. The second question dealt with in the Memorandum of 3 August, 1875, that, namely, of appeals in suits between British subjects and Moorish subjects, was the subject of a correspondence between Sir John Drummond Hay and the Moorish Government, trnsmitted by Sir John Drummond Hay in March 1875.

48. On 20 April, 1875, this correspondence was sent to me, with printed Papers comprising previous correspondence, and I was requested to furnish Lord Derby with my observations thereon, and with a Draft of an Order in Council to supersede or to supplement the Order of 1857 (paragraph 8, above) as I might consider necessary.

49. At this point considerable delay occurred on my part, mainly caused by the difficulty of coming to a conclusion from the materials before me on the question, how it would be desirable that any new Order in Council for Morocco should be framed.

50. On 13 December, 1876, I reported to the Foreign Office. I observed that the second head under which the matter was arranged in my Memorandum of 3 August, 1874, namely, appeals in suits between British subjects and Moorish subjects had been satisfactorily disposed of for the present by formal communications between Sir John Drummond Hay and the Moorish Minister, establishing that that interpretation of the Treaty, which is sound in principle, is the one acted on. An appeal is carried to the superior Moorish authority, or to the superior British authority, according as the nationality of the Court below is Moorish or is British, not according to the nationality

of the litigant appealing. It, therefore, only remained, under this head, to repeal Articles Eight and Nine of the Order in Council of 1857; but, as those Articles are not acted on, this repeal, I observed, was not urgent, and might wait for the general revision of the Order in Council. I then observed that Sir John Drummond Hay had expressed concurrence in my view, that the best course would be to have for Morocco a comprehensive Order in Council like that for the Ottoman Dominions, one instrument comprising the substantive propositions and the procedure. It should adopt the improvements proposed to be introduced into the Order for the Western Pacific, then under the consideration of the Law Officers. In that intended Order, the changes lately made here by the Judicature Acts would be followed in principle, and a convenient separation would be made of the details of procedure, they being thrown into a Schedule, while still forming part of the Order in Council itself. But, I added, it would be necessary for me to have the advice and assistance of some person of local legal experience, to enable me to settle the Draft of such an Order for Morocco; and I stated that I had availed myself of the occasion of Sir John Drummond Hay being over here in the autumn of 1876 to speak with him on the subject. We agreed that it was expedient that, in the first instance, the views of experienced Consular officers in Morocco should be collected. I inclosed a paper of notes, and I suggested that this paper, and copies of the Ottoman Order, and Draft Western Pacific Order, should be sent to Sir John Drummond Hay, with instructions to him to report on the whole matter, after consulting such of the Consular officers in Morocco as he might think capable of giving useful advice respecting the arrangements to be now made. The Draft Order in Council, when prepared, would, I said, have to be sent out to Morocco for consideration, unless some one could come to this country with whom I could settle it here.

51. On 19 March, 1877, Sir John Drummond Hay sent home the Report of Mr. Horace P. White, Her Majasty's Consul at Tangier, in whose views Sir John Drummond Hay stated he concurred; and on 24 June, 1877, I was furnished with the observations of Mr. R. Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador.

52. In June 1877 I had several interviews here with Mr. White, in pursuance of arrangements made for that purpose by the Foreign Office, on my suggestion; and he has since his return to Morocco communicated with me by letter on some points.

53. I regret much that a variety of causes has delayed until now the completion and printing of the Draft, which had been nearly finished a considerable timo ago.

54. The Draft corresponds, in general character, with the Western Pacific Order in Council of last year; and the Orders for China and Japan, and for the Ottoman Dominions, have been compared and made use of.

55. The foregoing statement and the marginal observations on the Draft will, I trust, be sufficient to make comparatively easy the perusal and consideration of the Draft, notwithstanding its length.

56. The only matter, I think, outside the Draft requiring special attention arises out of the fact that the Draft Rules prepared by Mr. Archibald received the approval of the Law Officers in 1871. This being so, I think it right to point out that Mr. Archibald's Draft Rules comprise various provisions which are not reproduced in, and to which there is nothing corresponding in, my Draft. It becomes necessary to consider what should be done with those provisions. In order to facilitate the consideration of them I have annexed them to this Memorandum, and have made marginal observations on them. The result is that, in my opinion, some of them should be dropped altogether, and the rest might be embodied in some Consular Notice, or other document, to be drawn up by the Consul-General, and to be issued by him, after receiving the approval of the Secretary of State.

Page 15, Appendix.

57. I suggest that, in connection with that notice or document, there should be drawn up and issued an abstract of the General Treaty

of 9 December, 1856, and of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation of the same date. This step would tend to effect what is indicated as desirable in Article XXXVII of the Treaty, in these words:

"This Treaty shall be declared and made public to the subjects of both parties, lest any one of them should remain ignorant of its conditions."

(Signed) F. S. REILLY.

8 *July*, 1878.

Additional Memorandum.

1. A letter of 8 November, 1878, from the Colonial Office to the Foreign Office, after stating that the Draft Order and the Memorandum had been forwarded to the Government of Gibraltar, brings under the notice of the Foreign Office points on Articles 42, 77, and 79, which will be found noted opposite those Articles in the margin of the Draft Order, and deals with the questions respecting imprisonment at Gibraltar, arising on Article 34. There is no other matter in the Colonial Office letter or its inclosures requiring observation from me.

20 November, 1878; Consular, 65.

2. The Draft Order and Memorandum having been sent to Morocco for consideration, a further Memorandum by Mr. Horace White, Her Majesty's Consul at Tangier, has been sent home by Sir John Drummond Hay. I have given attention to his observations. I have also had the advantage of a communication in a private form from Mr. White.

21 December, 1878; Consular, 71.

3. Sir John Drummond Hay has likewise reported that he has received a letter from Mr. R. Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, concurring in Mr. White's observations, and drawing special attention to a subject connected with Part VII of the Draft Order, namely, the practice frequently adopted by British subjects in Morocco of entering into direct communication with local and foreign authorities and Tribunals, particularly the former, in matters affecting their interests, without the sanction of the British Consular officer. This practice (he states) gives rise to much inconvenience and complication, and frequently to acts of gross injustice.

Sir John Drummond Hay states that he agrees entirely with these views, and suggests that some provision might be made by which a check may be placed upon this most inconvenient and troublesome practice.

I do not think that this is a matter within the scope of the Draft Order, unless the act of so entering into communication were to be made an offence, which would not, I think, be expedient; but, if Sir John Drummond Hay's views are approved, this matter might be dealt with in the Consular Notice or other document which I have suggested in paragraph 56 of the foregoing Memorandum.

4. I have revised the Draft generally. The new matter I have inserted, when of any considerable length, in the form of riders interleaved, to avoid disturbing the type seriously, and deranging the numbering, before the final printing. New marginal notes are in italics.

5. This is the first occasion on which the Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1878 is to be applied. The Articles founded on it, now added, are indicated in the margin. They deserve consideration.

F. S. R.

4 *April*, 1879.

Appendix.

Referred to above, Memorandum, par. 56.

Extracts from Mr. Archibald's Draft Rules approved by Law Officers in 1871.

15. British subjects charged with any crime or offence which it shall appear to the Consul would not, if proved, be adequately punished by the infliction of such punishment as provided in Rule No. 12, and not sent for trial before the Supreme Court of Her Majesty's Garrison and Territory of Gibraltar, but tried and convicted before Her Majesty's Consul, shall be punished as follows, that is to say:—

* * * * * *

Any man or boy convicted of striking, beating, or otherwise cruelly or wilfully ill-treating any woman or girl, may, in addition to any other punishment for such offence authorized by these Rules, be at the discretion of the Consul ordered to be once, twice, or thrice whipped, subject to the following provisions:

I think the following matters under Rule 15 may be left to be dealt with by the general criminal law, as far as they are offences by English law, subject to the limitations of punishment contained in my Draft Order.—F. S. R.

1. That in the case of an offender whose age does not exceed 16 years, the number of strokes at each such whipping do not exceed twenty-five, and the instrument used shall be a birch rod:

2. That in the case of any other male offender, the number of strokes do not exceed fifty at each such whipping:

3. That in each case the Consul in his sentence shall specify the number of strokes to be inflicted, and the instrument to be used:

Any person convicted of drunkenness, profane swearing, or creating a disturbance, or of riotous and disorderly conduct, shall be punished by a fine of not less than half a dollar, and not exceeding 5 dollars, and in default of payment of the fine, by imprisonment for any period not exceeding ten days.

Any person convicted of using profane or abusive language, tending to excite a breach of the peace, or of falsely writing and publishing, or speaking and publishing, words directly tending to disparage or bring into contempt or ridicule any other person, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding 5 dollars, and in default of payment of the fine, by imprisonment for any period not exceeding fifteen days.

Any person convicted of cheating or fraud, or obtaining money by false pretences, shall be punished by a fine of not less than 5 dollars, or by imprisonment for any period not exceeding fifteen days, at the discretion of Her Majesty's Consul, the balance of any such fine as aforesaid after deducting such amount for expenses as the Consul may think reasonable to be handed over to the party defrauded, or his representatives.

Any person who shall be convicted of wantonly and cruelly beating, or otherwise ill-treating any animal, may be punished by a fine not exceeding 5 dollars for each offence, or by imprisonment for ten days.

Any person convicted of drunkenness or of disorderly conduct in any public place, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding 5 dollars for every such offence, or by imprisonment for ten days.

Any person who shall be convicted of forcibly entering any mosque or saint-house or the dwelling-house of any subject of the Sultan of Morocco, or of intruding uninvited upon the privacy of any Mohammedan female, or of committing any breach of any police regulation from time to time in force by lawful authority in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding 500 dollars, or by imprisonment or deportation for any period not exceeding twelve calendar months.

This is partly provided for in my Draft Order, Art. 15.—F. S. R.

All persons convicted of any offence connected with matters affecting the British Mercantile Marine, shall be dealt with and punished in conformity with the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and any other Act or Acts of Parliament from time to time in force relating to merchant shipping and seamen, and the instructions relative thereto, prepared by the Board of Trade for the guidance of Her Majesty's Consuls, and approved by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

* * * * * *

This should be left to the Consular Marriage Act itself.—F. S. R.

31. Marriages of British subjects resident in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco shall be solemnized at Her Majesty's Consulate in the presence of Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General in conformity with the Act 12 & 13 Vict., c. 68.

This might be put in the Consul-General's proposed Notice.—F. S. R.

32. Every master of a British vessel, outward bound, shall accept, carry, and deliver to the Post-master, Consul, or other Government officer, at the port of his destination, to whom the same may be addressed, all despatches, letters, letter-bags, and mails tendered to him for that purpose by any officer of this Consulate.

This might be put in the Consul-General's proposed Notice. But it should be merely a statement of an existing rule, and should not be worded as an enactment.—F. S. R.

33. All questions regarding the tenure or ownership of land or any kind of real property, in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco, shall be determined by the Kadi, or Moorish Judge.

This might form part of the Consul-General's proposed Notice. It seems to me obviously unfit, both in substance and in form, for any kind of enactment.—F. S. R.

35. Strangers coming to this place under British protection, and wishing to make excursions into the interior of the country, or beyond the distance of two English miles from the town, should be accompanied on such excursions by a Moorish soldier or guard, and, unless they are so accompanied, the local authorities will not be responsible for the safety of their persons or property anywhere beyond the distance of two miles from the walls of the town.

The services of a Moorish soldier or guard may be obtained on application to the proper authorities, made through Her Majesty's Consul. The usual fee for a mounted soldier is one dollar a-day; for a foot soldier, half a dollar a-day.

The like.—F. S. R.

36. British subjects are prohibited as well by the general law of the land as by the sanitary regulations, from disembarking at any part of the coast of Morocco where there is not a port open for the reception of vessels, and the lives of persons who may infringe the law or the sanitary regulations in this respect are exposed to great danger.

This requires consideration. It does not appear what is the Moorish Board of Health, or what authority a Tribunal of that Board has to punish British subjects.—F. S. R.

37. If any British subject be arrested by the coast-guard while in the act of landing on or approaching within shot of the coast, at any place other than a regular port, he will be prosecuted before a Tribunal of the Moorish Board of Health, and will be liable to be put in quarantine, fined, or otherwise punished by the said Board.

This might form part of the Consul-General's proposed Notice.—F. S. R.

39. Every person who shall apply at Her Majesty's Consulate to have his name enrolled in any bill of health, which shall already have been issued to the master of a British vessel bound to Gibraltar, may, if in other respects duly qualified, on payment of a dollar, have his name so enrolled, provided that any such application be made between the hours of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M.

It does not appear what authority the Consul-General has to make any declaration on this subject. If adopted, the Rule might be made part of the Consul-General's proposed Notice.—F. S. R.

40. Any British subject landing at this port may, unless he be borne on the muster-roll of any British vessel plying regularly between this port and Gibraltar, pass through the Custom-house of this port any quantity of tobacco not exceeding half a pound in weight without being liable to pay duty thereon.

The like.—F. S. R.

41. British vessels bound for Gibraltar will not be allowed by the Custom-house authorities to take on board any provisions in excess of the quantity or quantities respectively hereinafter stated, and any articles taken on board any British vessel in excess of the said several quantities hereinafter mentioned will be confiscated:—

Vessels of the burthen of 20 tons or upwards.	One bullock, two dozen fowls, and two cwt. of biscuit or bread.
Vessels of less than 20 tons burthen.	Half a bullock, one dozen fowls, and two cwt. of biscuit or bread.

Vessels proceeding from this port to any port other than Gibraltar will be allowed to ship at this port sufficient provisions for the maintenance of the master, crew, and passengers during the voyage; the supply to be regulated proportionally to the allowance made to vessels bound for Gibraltar, with reference to the distance of the port of destination.

43. All British subjects who shall have been sentenced to imprisonment shall be imprisoned in a prison attached to this Consulate. If any person so imprisoned make any attempt to escape from the said prison, or be guilty of insubordinate or refractory conduct, he may be removed to the Moorish prison, and if so removed, he will, on leaving the Moorish prison, be required to pay the usual fee levied on Moorish subjects upon liberation.

This should be considered both as to substance and as to terms.
Any Rule adopted on the subject might form part of the Consul-General's proposed Notice.—F. S. R.

44. All prisoners confined in the prison attached to the Consulate, except as in particular cases otherwise ordered, and except cases otherwise provided for by any Rules and Regulations made by Her Majesty's Consul, shall provide for their own maintenance while in prison. In default of their being able to do so, Her Majesty's Consul will supply them with a sufficient quantity of bread and water and such other food as he may deem reasonable.

The like.—F. S. R.

45. No native subject of the Sultan of Morocco not in the employment of, or attached to, the Office of Her Majesty's Consul, has any claim to British protection; but Her Majesty's Consul will extend his good offices to all Moorish subjects in the employment of British subjects in all cases where he may consider them to be unjustly accused or ill-treated, or the interests of the British subjects, their employers, may be unjustly affected by interference with such Moorish subjects.

The like.—F. S. R.

46. Subjects of the Sultan of Morocco domiciled in his dominions, but serving on board British vessels, will receive no assistance from Her Majesty's Consul in claiming exemption from the taxes and burdens usually levied and imposed by the local authorities on Moorish subjects in general.

The like.—F. S. R.

47. This Chancellerie or Office of Her Majesty's Consul is open to the public every day, except Sunday, between the hours of 10 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon.

This appears to me to be unnecessary, regard being had to the provisions of the Draft Order, applicable to mixed suits.—F. S. R.

49. Any subject of any Power other than Her Majesty and the Sultan, who shall be desirous of instituting in this Consulate any proceeding, civil or criminal, against a British subject, must appear and make requisition before Her Majesty's Consul, accompanied by an officer from the Consulate of his own nation, or furnished with a written requisition from his own protecting Consul that he may be allowed to institute such proceeding. The complaint will thereupon be inquired into by Her Majesty's Consul, and justice done in accordance with the forms provided for in these Rules and Regulations applicable to the nature of the case.

The like.—F. S. R.

50. Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General shall, on receiving from the Consul of any other Power a notification in writing of any claim or charge put forward against a British subject by any person under protection of such last-mentioned Consul, at once refer the matter to Her Majesty's Consul, and shall himself take no further cognisance thereof, except in the event of an appeal being made to him from the decision of Her Majesty's Consul thereon.

No. 55.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 18. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 6, 1881.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 8, Commercial, of the 30th September, transmitting two more copies of the draft Convention of Commerce and Navigation between England and Morocco, as requested in my despatch No. 16, Commercial, of the 17th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 56.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 19. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 8, 1881.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of a letter addressed to me by General Anderson, the Acting Governor of Gibraltar, and of my reply, on the subject of the proposed new Convention of Trade and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

Major-General W. Anderson to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Gibraltar, September 30, 1881.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the inclosed copy of a despatch, with inclosures, which I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of a draft of a proposed new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco.

In pursuance of Lord Kimberley's instructions, I shall be glad to be favoured with your opinion as to the advisability of consulting the Gibraltar Exchange Committee with respect to any provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports in reference to the suggestions made by them in their direct communications with your Excellency and in the inclosed Memorandum on the subject of trade in Morocco, copies of which were forwarded to the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade through the Colonial Office in the month of June 1880.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. ANDERSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Major-General Anderson.

Tangier, October 3, 1881.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting the copy of a despatch, with inclosures, from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of the draft of a proposed new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco, and your Excellency informs me that, in pursuance of instructions received from Lord Kimberley, you are desirous of having my opinion as to the advisability of consulting the Gibraltar Exchange Committee with respect to any provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports in reference to the communications that took place last year between the Exchange Committee and myself.

As it is very desirable that I should be made fully acquainted with the views and wishes of the mercantile community at Gibraltar regarding trade with Morocco before further steps are taken in the negotiation of the revised Convention, I entirely coincide

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with your Excellency's suggestion to consult without delay the Exchange Committee on this subject, with the view of ascertaining whether they have any further proposals to make or information to impart in addition to that contained in the verbal and written communication which they made to me in the months of March and June of last year.

I have been given to understand that it is the intention of the Sultan to appoint another Plenipotentiary than the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cid Mohammed Bargash, to treat with me, and that His Majesty awaits his arrival at the City of Morocco from his present campaign to dispatch an officer from his Court to be encharged with this mission.

The Sultan has been in possession of the draft of the proposed Convention since the month of May last, and I will not conceal from your Excellency that the procrastination which has taken place has not left a favourable impression on my mind, and leads me to apprehend that the counsels of illiberal and ignorant persons have induced the Sultan to regard unfavourably the reduction of the duties proposed in the new Tariff as being prejudicial to his receipts of customs.

Should your Excellency think it advisable to communicate to the Exchange Committee the Tariff which it is proposed to introduce into the new Convention, I request that they should be informed that the Tariff was not drawn up on my understanding of what would be most beneficial to trade, for in such case a greater reduction or even the abolition of duties on exports would have been recommended; but I have inserted the duties which I have been informed by intelligent merchants would give an impulse and better encouragement to trade, and at the same time admit of consideration on the part of this Government, though I am far from being sanguine in expecting that all the proposed reductions will be accepted.

The Sultan will probably direct his Plenipotentiary to be guided rather by the financial than the commercial results to be obtained by the new Convention, and it will be a hard task, as it was when I negotiated the Convention of Commerce of 1856, to convince this Government that the revenue will be improved by the removal of high duties and other restrictions on commerce.

I return as requested the documents marked "To be returned."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 57.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received October 20.)

(No. 20. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 12, 1881.

My Lord,

IN the amended draft of the proposed Convention of Commerce and Navigation, I find that the last paragraph in Article III, viz., "British subjects shall pay a gate-tax on all animals which are their property carrying merchandize, according to Tariff laid down in the Regulations drawn up by the foreign Representatives at Tangier in concert with the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in conformity with Article XIII of the Convention of Madrid of the 3rd July, 1880," has been omitted, and yet in Article VIII of the amended draft it is referred to in the following passage, "free of any kind of charge or duty whatsoever except the gate-tax stated in Article III."

I conclude that the omission was an oversight in printing, and I therefore request to be informed whether I am to reinsert the clause in question.

As the Moorish Government has always objected to the crews of fishing boats landing on the Moorish coast to employ nets or other means for taking fish on the land, I would suggest that the words "off the coast" or "along the coast" instead of "on the coast" be inserted in the second line of Article XIII.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—Should your Lordship instruct me to insert the alterations in the amended draft, as suggested, I will make it known to the German Minister, M. Weber.

J. H. D. H.

No. 58.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received November 1.)

Downing Street, October 31, 1881.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Granville, a copy of a despatch from the Officer administering the Government of Gibraltar regarding the Convention of Commerce with Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

Acting Governor Anderson to the Earl of Kimberley.

Gibraltar, October 15, 1881.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 13th September, marked General, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Foreign Office, with the draft of a proposed new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco.

2. In pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, I have consulted with Sir J. Drummond Hay on the subject, and with his concurrence I invited the Gibraltar Exchange Committee to furnish me with an expression of their opinion with respect to the Tariff which it is proposed to introduce into the new Convention in reference to the communications that took place last year between them and Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, copies of which were forwarded to your Lordship in Lord Napier's despatch of the 17th June, 1880.

3. I now inclose copies of the correspondence that has passed on the subject, with the reply from the Exchange Committee to my inquiries, which I have communicated to Sir J. Drummond Hay for his consideration, and his further views on the matter I shall have the honour to submit to your Lordship by the first opportunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. ANDERSON, *Major-General.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Acting Governor Anderson to Sir J. Drummond Hay, September 30, 1881.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 56.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Acting Governor Anderson, October 3, 1881.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 56.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 58.

Mr. Baynes to M. Recaño.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar, October 8, 1881.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence relative to a Memorandum prepared by the Exchange Committee on the subject of trade in Morocco, copies of which have been forwarded to the Colonial Office, the Foreign Office, and the Board of Trade,—

2. I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Acting Governor, to transmit herewith copies of the Tariff which it proposed to introduce into a new draft Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco, now under consideration of the two Governments, and to request you will be so good as to move the Exchange Committee to state, without delay, for the information of Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, whether they have any further proposals to make or information to impart with respect to any provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports in addition to that contained in the verbal and written communications which they made to him in the months of March and June of last year.

3. With regard to the proposed new Tariff, Sir J. Drummond Hay desires that the Exchange Committee should be informed that it was not drawn up on his understanding of what would be most beneficial to trade, for in such case a greater reduction, or even the abolition of duties on exports, would have been recommended; but his Excellency has inserted the duties which he has been informed by intelligent merchants would give an impulse and better encouragement to trade, and, at the same time, admit of consideration on the part of the Moorish Government, though he is far from being sanguine in expecting that all the proposed reductions will be accepted.

4. I have further to add that his Excellency will be glad to receive the desired information from the Exchange Committee at the earliest possible date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT S. BAYNES, *Colonial Secretary.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 58.

M. Recaño to Mr. Baynes.

Exchange Rooms, Gibraltar, October 11, 1881.

Sir,

IN reply to your communication, dated the 8th instant, inclosing copies of the Tariff which it is proposed to introduce into a new draft Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco, I have the honour, by direction of the Exchange Committee, to state that they are of opinion that the reduction proposed on washed wool is not relative with the greasy, and they would suggest that the export duty on washed wool be 38 per cantar.

2. The Committee beg also to call the attention of Her Majesty's Minister to the unfairness existing in the business now carried on in export of cattle; under present conditions, British subjects are precluded from participating in the trade, whereas through foreign Consulates favourable concessions are obtained, enabling their subjects to profit by this trade.

3. The Committee is also of opinion that wheat and barley should actually constitute articles of export, and not be simply, as hitherto, nominal articles in the Tariff.

4. The Exchange Committee views with satisfaction the efforts which his Excellency the British Minister is making to insure the export of mineral ore, as they believe it will materially tend to introduce foreign enterprize and capital into Morocco, and do much towards developing that Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. RECAÑO, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 58.

Acting Governor Anderson to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Gibraltar, October 15, 1881

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 3rd instant, the substance of which I caused to be duly communicated to the Gibraltar Exchange Committee, with a copy of the Tariff which it is proposed to introduce into the new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco.

2. I now transmit herewith copy of a letter from the Committee containing their views and suggestions with respect to the provisions required on behalf of trade between Gibraltar and Moorish ports, which I beg to recommend to your Excellency's consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. ANDERSON, *Major-General.*

No. 59.

Sir R. Herbert to Sir Charles W. Dilke.—(Received November 4.)

Downing Street, November 3, 1881.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a despatch from the Officer administering the Government of Gibraltar regarding the Tariff in the Convention with Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

Major-General Anderson to the Earl of Kimberley.

Gibraltar, October 21, 1881.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of Sir John H. Drummond Hay's reply to my despatch, forwarding, for his consideration, a copy of the last letter from the Exchange Committee, containing their suggestions with respect to the Tariff proposed to be introduced into the new Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Morocco, now under consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. ANDERSON, *Acting Governor.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Acting Governor Anderson.

Tangier, October 17, 1881.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 15th instant, transmitting the copy of a letter from the Exchange Committee, containing suggestions with respect to the proposed new Convention of Commerce.

2. I shall be happy to do all in my power to meet the wishes of the mercantile community of Gibraltar in obtaining the proposed reduction on washed wool, but as I have already informed your Excellency, I expect to meet with much opposition in the negotiation to all the proposed reductions on duties on exports.

3. With regard to the exportation of oxen by foreign merchants through the Shereefian licences granted to foreign Governments for the purpose of provisioning their land and naval forces, and which are of an identic character to that ceded to Her Majesty's Government for the provisioning of Her Majesty's forces at Gibraltar, I have repeatedly brought this subject under the notice of the Moorish Government, who, though they disapprove of these irregularities, do not venture to put a stop to them for fear of giving offence to foreign Governments. So long as these abuses are tolerated, British subjects would be permitted to export oxen through the Shereefian grant ceded to Her Majesty's Government if authorized to do so by the Gibraltar authorities, so long as the number of 6,000 head per annum is not exceeded.

4. I have urged, and shall continue to urge, that the exportation of oxen should be permitted without restriction further than the export duty of 5 dollars per head as the best means of checking the irregularities complained of.

5. With regard to the exportation of wheat and barley, I have repeatedly recommended and shall continue to urge that the restriction on these cereals should be removed and a fixed duty imposed, as on other grain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 59.

Draft of Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco.

[See Inclosure in No. 45.]

No. 60.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received November 15.)

(No. 9. Sanitary.)

My Lord,

Tangier, November 7, 1881.

A COMPLAINT having been made against the master of a British vessel for having infringed the Sanitary Regulations by landing at Tangier before he had received pratique, and for having shown disrespect to the Health Officer, the Morocco Board of Health proposed that certain penalties should in future be inflicted on persons contravening the Rules of the Board.

As a member of the Board of Health, I concurred that it was desirable that there should be power to inflict penalties for infraction of the Rules, as otherwise it would be useless that Rules be established. But I stated that at present Her Majesty's Consular officers have no power to fine or imprison British subjects for infractions of the Sanitary Regulations, although I believed that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to give them this power. I added that, in the case in question, Her Majesty's Consul had already, before the question was brought forward by the Board, reprimanded the master of the vessel for his misconduct.

Some of my colleagues have expressed the opinion that the Moorish Board of Health can itself deal with cases of this kind, and impose penalties on offenders, whether foreign subjects or not. To this opinion I have objected, on the ground that no Moorish authority has jurisdiction over British subjects according to existing Treaty stipulations, the British Consul being the sole judge in all criminal cases and complaints against British subjects, and I cited the analogous case of infractions of the Customs laws of Morocco by British subjects, which are not dealt with by the Moorish authorities; but the British subjects guilty of the offence must be convicted before the British Consular officer, and the penalty be imposed as may be determined by him. Some of my colleagues appear not to participate in this view.

As it is, however, of importance that the Regulations of the Board of Health in this country should not be rendered illusory by the inability of any Court in Morocco to fine or imprison British subjects guilty of their infraction, which might in times, like the present, when cholera exists in the East, and the Moorish pilgrims are about to return to this country, be the cause of Morocco being placed in quarantine by other countries, by which serious prejudice would be caused to commerce, I have the honour to suggest that as little delay as possible may occur in giving the necessary power to British Consular officers to enforce by penalty the Rules of the Morocco Board of Health; and in order to enable me to reply to those of my colleagues who hold opinions different from my own, I should be glad to be informed whether the Morocco Board of Health can itself impose fines or other penalties on British subjects; whether it can determine what penalties are to be imposed, the Consul merely acting as the executive; or lastly, whether the Consul is to hear the case, and to fix the penalty at his own discretion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 61.

Mr. Reilly to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received November 18.)

MR. REILLY presents his compliments to Sir Julian Pauncefote, and, with reference to Mr. Lister's letter to Mr. Reilly of the 5th October, 1881, relative to the amendment of the draft Order in Council for Morocco, Mr. Reilly requests that he may be furnished (1) with a printed copy of the Regulations made by the Representatives of the Powers and the Foreign Minister of Morocco under Articles XII and XIII of the Convention of Madrid of the 3rd July, 1880; and (2) with a copy of the Agreement or Convention of 1863 between France and Morocco respecting brokers, referred to in Article X of the same Convention of Madrid, as specified in Article IV of the recent Convention of Commerce between this country and Morocco.

21, *Delahay Street, Westminster,*
November 16, 1881.

No. 62.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 9. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, November 25, 1881.

Sir,

IN reply to your despatch No. 20, Commercial, of the 12th ultimo, I have to inform you that it was not thought to be necessary to insert in Article III of the proposed Convention of Commerce and Navigation with Morocco the stipulation with respect to the gate-tax which is already included in the Convention of Madrid.

At the same time, on consideration of your remarks, and in order to prevent any misapprehension in the matter, the following alterations may be made in Article III. In line 1, the word "except" may be substituted for "beside," and in line 2, after the word "goods," the sentence "provided by Article III of the Convention signed at Madrid on the 3rd July, 1880," may be added. In Article VIII, line 6, "referred to" may be inserted instead of "stated."

In Article XIII, line 2, the word "along" may be substituted for the word "on."

I inclose copies of the draft Convention in which these alterations have been made.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco.—Revised November 23, 1881.

Signed, in the English and Arabic languages, at Tangier, 188 .

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez, being desirous to extend and improve the relations of commerce and navigation which exist between their respective dominions and subjects, have resolved to conclude a special Convention for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir John Hay Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez;

And His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco and Fez, Seed Mohammed Bargash, his Minister for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce between the British dominions and the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco. The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty may reside in and trade to any port of the territories of the Sultan of Morocco to which any other foreigners are or shall be admitted.

They shall be permitted to hire houses, and to build houses, stores, or warehouses, as stipulated in Article IV of the General Treaty of the 9th December, 1856.

They shall enjoy full protection for their persons and properties, as specified in Article IV of the General Treaty; they shall be allowed to buy from, and to sell to, whom they like, all articles not prohibited in or under Article II of this Convention, either by wholesale or retail, at all places in the Moorish dominions, without being restrained or prejudiced by any monopoly, contract, or exclusive privilege of purchase or sale whatever, except the articles of export and those of import enumerated in Article II; and they shall, moreover, enjoy all other rights and privileges which hereafter may be granted to any other foreigners, subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

The subjects of the Sultan of Morocco shall, in return, enjoy in the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty the same protection and privileges which are or may be enjoyed by the subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE II.

The Sultan of Morocco engages that there shall be in his dominions no monopolies or prohibitions of imported goods except tobacco, pipes of all kinds used for smoking,

opium, powder, lead, ammunition of war and arms of all kinds (other than sword-blades, daggers, and pistols); and further, that there shall be no monopolies of agricultural produce, or of any other article whatsoever in the dominions of the Sultan, except tobacco, and other herbs used for smoking in pipes.

ARTICLE III.

No tax, toll, duty, or charge whatsoever, except the gate-tax on beasts of burthen carrying goods, provided by Article XIII of the Convention signed at Madrid on the 3rd July, 1880, and the export duty hereinafter mentioned, shall, under any pretext or on any account, be imposed by any person whatsoever, in any part of the dominions of Morocco, upon or in respect of any goods or produce whatsoever which may have been purchased for exportation by or on behalf of any British subject; but the said goods or produce, when so purchased, shall be conveyed from any place in Morocco to, and embarked from, any port therein, absolutely free and exempt from all other taxes or duties. No officer or subject of the Sultan shall offer any impediment to, or lay any restriction on, the conveyance or embarkation of such goods, or on any pretext demand or receive any money in respect or on account of such goods; and should any such officer or subject act contrary to this stipulation, the Sultan shall immediately punish with severity the Governor, officer, or other subject who shall have been guilty of such misconduct, and render full justice to British subjects for all injuries or losses which they may duly prove themselves to have suffered thereby.

ARTICLE IV.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty within the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan shall be free to manage their own affairs themselves, or to commit those affairs to the management of any persons whom they may appoint as their broker, factor, or agent; nor shall such British subjects be restrained in their choice of persons to act in such capacities; nor shall they be called upon to pay any salary or remuneration to any person whom they shall not choose to employ; but those persons who shall be thus employed, and who are subjects of the Sultan of Morocco, shall be treated and regarded as other subjects of the Moorish dominions. Absolute freedom shall be given in all cases to the buyer and seller to bargain together, and no interference on the part of the Sultan's officers shall be permitted. Should any Governor or other officer interfere in the bargains between British and Moorish subjects, or place any impediments in the lawful purchase or sale of goods or merchandize imported into, or to be exported from, the Sultan's dominions, His Shereefian Majesty shall severely punish the said officer for such misconduct.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty who are merchants doing business on a large scale on imports and exports within the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan, whether on their own account or on that of others, shall be further entitled to select two brokers at each of the ports where they may have houses of business. These brokers shall be placed under the jurisdiction and protection of British Consular officers; and all the provisions of the Agreement or Convention of 1863 between France and Morocco respecting brokers, referred to in Article X of the Convention of Madrid of the 3rd July, 1880, shall apply to brokers acting on behalf of such British subjects.

ARTICLE V.

Merchandize or goods, except the articles enumerated in Article II, imported by British subjects in any vessel, or from any country, shall not be prohibited in the territories of the Sultan of Morocco, nor be subject to higher duties than are levied on the same kind of merchandize or goods imported by the subjects of any other foreign Power, or by native subjects, after the date of this Convention.

All articles, except those enumerated in Article II, the produce of Morocco, may be exported therefrom by British subjects in any vessels, on as favourable terms as by the subjects of any other foreign country, or by native subjects.

ARTICLE VI.

In consideration of the favourable terms upon which the produce of Morocco is admitted into the territories of Her Britannic Majesty, and with a view to the extens on of commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Morocco, for their mutual advantage, His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco hereby agrees that the duties to be levied on all articles imported into the territories of His Majesty by British subjects shall not exceed 10 per

cent. in cash on their value at the port of their disembarkation; and that the duties to be levied on all articles exported from the territories of His Majesty by British subjects shall not exceed in amount the duties marked in the following Tariff:—

Tariff of Exports.

Goods comprised in British Tariff of 1856.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Wheat	Strike fanega	10	Tallow	Cantar	20
Maize and durra	Full fanega	5	Mules	Head	400
Barley	Strike fanega	5	Donkeys	,,	60
All other grain	Cantar	5	Sheep	,,	10
Flour	,,	12	Goats	,,	8
Bird-seed	,,	5	Fowls	Dozen	10
Dates	,,	15	Eggs	1,000	20
Almonds	,,	15	Slippers	..	5 per cent. *ad val.**
Oranges, lemons, and limes	1,000	4			
Wild marjoram	Cantar	4	Porcupine quills	1,000	2
Cummin-seed	,,	10	Grassool	Cantar	5
Oil	,,	20	Ostrich feathers	Lb.	20
Gums	,,	10	Baskets	100	10
Henna	,,	6	Carraway-seed	Cantar	5
Wax	,,	40	Combs of wood	100	2
Rice	,,	5	Hair	Cantar	15
Wool, washed	,,	45	Raisins	,,	10
,, in grease	,,	21	Woollen sashes called "karazy"	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Hides, sheep and goat skins	,,	16			
Tanned skins, called "felaly," "zawany," and "cochines"	,,	50	Tackawt (a dye)	Cantar	10
			Tanned fleeces	,,	15
Horns	1,000	6	Hemp and flax	,,	12

Goods Tariffed subsequent to British Treaty.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duties.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Amber	Cantar	..	Ostrich eggs	Each	½
Aniseed	,,	10	Parings of hides for making glue	Cantar	4
Biscuits	,,	8	Partridges	Each	1
Blankets	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Pears	Cantar	8
			Rabbits	Each	1
Carpets, fine	..	Ditto.	Rags	Cantar	5
,, ordinary	..	Ditto.	Rose-leaves	,,	8
Cheese	Cantar	20	Sanush	,,	5
Cord of palmetto	100 bundles	8	Sesame	,,	8
Cushions	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Sieves	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
El jorf (cress-seed)	Cantar	10	Sparto grass	Cantar	3
Fasof (gum)	,,	10	Stirrups	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Goat-hair ropes	,,	10			Ditto.
Haicks	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	Tents, hair and palmetto	..	2½
		1	Tortoises	Cwt.	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Hares	..	5	Trays, brass, chased	..	Ditto.
Holba (tenugreck)	Cantar	5 per cent. *ad val.*	,, plain	..	10
Jellabs	..	10	Tripes	Cantar	8
			Walnuts	,,	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Kerme (dye)	Cantar	10	Woollen thread	..	Ditto.
Leather bags	..	5 per cent. *ad val.*	,, socks	..	5
		5	Zerguina (dye)	Cantar	5 per cent. *ad val.*
Lentils	Cantar	5	Rugs of palmetto	..	
Linseed	,,	10			
Orchilla	,,				

Goods which are not in the Tariff, but are occasionally exported.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Bones	Cantar	3	Onions	Cwt.	4
Butter	,,	20	Salt fish	..	..
Canes	100	5	Soap	Cwt.	10
Honey	Cantar	10	Straw	,,	1
Brooms, palmetto	Cwt.	1½	Sumach "mergatta"	..	..
Crin, or wool of palmetto	,,	2½	Wool, laris, and arrar	100 pieces	200
Osier	..	..	Khol	Cwt.	5

* 5 per cent. duty upon all articles manufactured in Morocco is proposed, with the view of encouraging Morocco manufacturers.

Goods which it is proposed should be exported.

Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.	Articles of Exportation.		Proposed Duty.
		Reals vellon.			Reals vellon.
Lead ore	Cwt.	5	Cork	Cwt.	4
Copper ore	,,	5	Salts, mineral and sea, including "cru de nitre"	,,	½
Iron ore	,,	2	Beef, salted	,,	..
Other minerals	,,	5	,, fresh	,,	..
Bark	,,	2			

Should the Sultan of Morocco think proper to reduce the duties on articles of exportation, His Majesty shall have the right of doing so, on condition that British subjects shall pay the lowest duty that shall be paid by any other foreign or native subjects.

ARTICLE VII.

Should a British subject, or his agent, desire to convey by sea, from one port to another in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco, goods upon which the 10 per cent. duty has been paid, such goods shall be subject to no further duty, either on their embarkation or disembarkation, provided they be accompanied by a certificate from a Moorish Administrator of Customs.

Grain and other articles, produce of Morocco, conveyed by sea from one port to another by British subjects, shall pay the duties fixed in the Tariff, and a receipt shall be given by the Customs officers.

On the disembarkation of the said articles at a port of Morocco, a note of their disembarkation shall be made on the receipt by the Custom-house officers to that effect, and on presentation of the said noted receipt at the port where the goods were shipped, the duties shall be returned.

ARTICLE VIII.

If any article of Maroquine produce, growth, or manufacture, except the articles enumerated in Article II, be purchased for exportation, the same shall be conveyed by the British merchant, or by his agent, free of any kind of charge or duty whatsoever, except the gate-tax referred to in Article III, to a convenient place of shipment. Subsequently, on exportation, the export duty according to the Tariff in Article VI shall alone be paid on it.

ARTICLE IX.

No anchorage, tonnage, import, or other duty or charge shall be levied in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco on British vessels, or on goods imported or exported in British vessels, beyond what is, or may be, levied on national vessels, or on the like goods imported or exported in national vessels; they shall not, however, exceed in amount the rates of the following scale, viz.:—

	Reals vellon.
Upon vessels not measuring more than 50 tons	20
Ditto, from 50 to 100 tons	40
Ditto, from 100 to 150 tons	60
Ditto, from 150 tons upwards	80

The rate of pilotage at the ports of Rabat and Laraiche. British vessels shall pay 80 cents of real per ton on entry, and 80 cents of real per ton on departure.

No charge for anchorage shall be levied on account of British vessels which may enter the ports of Morocco for the purpose of seeking shelter from the weather, and which do not embark or discharge cargo, nor shall any charge for anchorage be levied upon fishing-vessels.

And, in like manner, no anchorage, tonnage, import, or other duty or charge, shall be levied in the British dominions on Moorish vessels, or on goods imported or exported in Moorish vessels, beyond what is or may be levied on national vessels, or on the like goods imported or exported in national vessels.

Should the Moorish Government construct breakwaters, quays, piers, or other improvements for the benefit of navigation, an equitable charge, as may be agreed upon between the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the foreign Representatives, shall be levied upon British vessels at the same rate as upon the vessels of other nations.

All vessels which according to British law are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which according to the law of Morocco are to be deemed Maroquine vessels, shall for the purposes of this Treaty be respectively deemed British or Maroquine vessels.

ARTICLE X.

Should British subjects desire to embark in or discharge goods from vessels arriving in the ports of Morocco, they shall employ the Moorish Government boats for that purpose; but if within two days after the arrival of a vessel the Moorish Government boats are not placed at their disposal for the aforesaid purpose, the British subjects shall have the right of employing private boats, and shall not pay, in such case, to the port authorities more than one-half of what would have been paid had they employed the Government boats. This regulation shall not be applicable to the ports of Tangier and Tetuan, inasmuch as there is a sufficient number of Government lighters at those two ports.

The charges now paid for lighterage at the different ports of Morocco shall not be augmented, and the Administrator of Customs at each port of Morocco shall deliver to the British Vice-Consul a Tariff of the charges now demanded for lighterage.

ARTICLE XI.

If a British subject be detected in smuggling into the Maroquine territories goods of any description, the goods shall be confiscated to the Sultan; and such British subject shall, on conviction before the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, be liable to be fined in an amount not exceeding treble the amount of duties leviable on such goods, or in case of goods not admitted to importation, treble the value of the goods at the current price of the day; and failing payment of such fines, such British subject shall, on conviction before the British Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, be liable to be imprisoned; or, without being fined, any British subject on conviction as aforesaid may be imprisoned, but in either case for a time not exceeding one year, in such place as the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent may determine.

ARTICLE XII.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty shall be entitled to purchase land, houses, stores, or other immovable property. The purchase of immovable property shall not be effected until after the consent of the Moorish Government shall be obtained. The title-deeds and like documents shall be drawn up in accordance with the laws of Morocco. Should a question arise at any time regarding immovable property held by a British subject, it shall be decided by the law of Morocco, and the plaintiff or defendant, as the case may be, shall have the right of appeal to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, as laid down in Article IX of the General Treaty of the 9th December, 1856, between Great Britain and Morocco.

ARTICLE XIII.

British subjects shall have the right of fishing for and taking fish along the coast of Morocco.

British subjects shall also have the right of fishing for coral along the shores of Morocco.

The payment of 150 dollars shall be paid annually for each vessel engaged in this fishery. The masters of vessels who desire to fish coral shall apply through the British Representative at Tangier to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who shall issue a written authority, to be delivered to the applicant on the payment of the above-mentioned sum.

British subjects fishing coral without authority shall be fined according to the nature of the offence.

ARTICLE XIV.

The present Convention shall be applicable to all the ports in the Empire of Morocco now open to foreign trade; and should His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco open the ports of Mehedea, Agadeer, Wadnoon, or any other places within the limits of His Majesty's dominions, no difference shall be made in the levying of duties, or anchorage charges, between the said ports and those ports in the Sultan's dominions which are now open to foreign trade.

ARTICLE XV.

In order that the two High Contracting Parties may have the opportunity of hereafter treating and agreeing upon such other arrangements as may tend still further to the improvement of their mutual intercourse, and to the advancement of the interests of their

respective subjects, it is agreed that at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Convention of Commerce and Navigation, either of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right to call upon the other to enter upon a revision of the same; but until such revision shall have been accomplished by common consent, and a new Convention shall have been concluded and ratified, the present Convention shall continue and remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XVI.

The present Convention shall be ratified by Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and by His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Tangier as soon as possible.

The stipulations of the present Convention shall come into operation on the expiration of four months after the exchange of the ratifications, and shall be substituted for the stipulations of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation of the 9th December, 1856, between Great Britain and Morocco.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Tangier,

No. 63.

Mr. Cole to Lord Tenterden.—(*Received December* 9.)

My Lord, *Treasury Chambers, December* 8, 1881.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Lister's letter of the 5th October last respecting the disposal of fines levied on British subjects in Morocco under the new Order in Council for non-payment of the gate and land taxes.

I am to state, for the information of Earl Granville, that, in the circumstances represented in Sir Charles Dilke's letter of the 13th September last, it does not appear to my Lords that these fines should be paid into the Exchequer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. COLE.

No. 64.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 22. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, December* 10, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 9, Commercial, of the 25th ultimo, transmitting two copies of the draft Convention containing some slight alterations which have been made in the original drafts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 65.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 23. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, December* 10, 1881.

WITH reference to the despatches marked in the margin* relative to the revision of the Convention of Commerce, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizir, Moktsar, informing me that orders have been given by the Sultan to Cid Mohammed Bargash to treat with me upon this subject.

Cid Mohammed Bargash is still at Rabat, but I am told he is expected here shortly.

This letter of the Vizir is in reply to a Memorandum which I had caused to be placed in the Sultan's hands in the month of October last.

* Nos. 37 and 51.

I took this step, as no Plenipotentiary had been appointed to negotiate the Convention, though five months have elapsed since my return to Tangier, and as I had grounds for apprehending that the mind of the Sultan since my visit to the Moorish Court in the spring of 1880 had been perverted by some of his ignorant Ministers, or even by the promptings of foreign intriguers, and that His Majesty had been induced to believe that the reduction in the Tariff and other proposed modifications of the Convention of 1856 would prove very prejudicial to the receipts of customs.

In my Memorandum, I reminded the Sultan that when I proposed to Mulai Abderrahman in 1855 the reduction of duties and abolition of monopolies and favouritism, His Majesty was advised by his Ministers not to listen to my proposals, as they declared such innovations would be most prejudicial to the revenue and to trade in general. I remarked that Mulai Abderrahman was a wise Sovereign, far wiser than his Ministers, and that, having confidence in the friendly and disinterested counsels of the British Government, he had ordered his Minister for Foreign Affairs, at that time Cid Mohammed Khateeb, to negotiate with me the General Treaty and Convention of Commerce.

I further made known to His Majesty that eight years afterwards, when I visited Sultan Cid Mohammed at Rabat, he had expressed to me at an audience, in the warmest language, his acknowledgments of the services I had rendered to the Moorish Government and to the trade of the country by the conclusion of the Convention of Commerce, and that His Majesty had observed "trade had trebled, and the receipts of customs had sufficed to pay the interest of the debt to the English loan contractors and half of the customs due to Spain, and the surplus from the receipt of customs exceeded the revenue before the Convention was signed."

The Memorandum appears to have left a favourable impression on the mind of the Sultan, as orders have now been issued to Cid Mohammed Bargash to treat with me.

In compliance with the wish expressed by the Sultan, I shall forward to His Majesty an Arabic translation of the old and new stipulations, with my observations thereupon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Vizir Moktsar to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

22 *Hedjats*, 1298 (*November* 15, 1881).

WE have received the Memorandum which you sent to the Court relative to the revision of the Convention of Commerce which you concluded in the lifetime of our Lord the great Sultan Mulai Abderrahman, by which a reduction of duties on imports and exports were effected, and monopolies and favouritism to every one were abolished, for when the Sultan (Mulai Abderrahman) became convinced that your sole object was to improve the welfare of this country, he (may God's blessing be upon him) ordered Cid Mohammed Alkhateeb to negotiate the said Convention with you. This was done, and the result, you state, was a great increase in the receipts of customs at the ports. In like manner your desire and aim (in the revision of this Convention) is to increase the welfare of these realms, and to benefit the Shereefian Government.

We submitted to the Sultan your Memorandum, and all that you said has been under His Majesty's consideration. He is convinced that both your powerful Government and you are well-wishers of the Moorish Government and people, and that any propositions which may be made are disinterested, and dictated solely by feelings of friendship, which induce you to offer good advice. You are aware that there are suggestions which, when offered, are accepted at once, and there are others which must be well weighed until the proper time arrives for their being entertained.

The aforesaid revised stipulations were forwarded by Cid Mohammed Bargash to the Shereefian Court with your letter on the subject, and a Memorandum with explanations regarding the proposed alterations.

These documents were referred to some of the administrators who are experienced in matters of trade, in order that they might give their opinions. They made known to Cid Mohammed Bargash their views on this subject, as the aforesaid documents were originally sent to him (Cid Mohammed Bargash).

Now, as the negotiation of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 was effected with Khateeb in the time of Sultan Mulai Abderrahman, in the same manner Cid Mohammed Bargash will treat regarding the present Convention, and our Lord the Sultan has ordered us to write to you to request that you forward to us a copy of the old stipulations,

accompanied by the revised, and explain all that you consider to be imperfect in the former as referred to by you.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY MOKTSAR.

No. 66.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 10. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 22, 1881.

I APPROVE your proceedings with respect to the revision of the Commercial Treaty between this country and Morocco, as reported in your despatch No. 23, Commercial, of the 10th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 67.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 18.)

(No. 2. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, January* 10, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo, approving of my proceedings with respect to the revision of the Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco, as reported in my despatch No. 23, Commercial, of the 10th December.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 68.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 4.)

(No. 6. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, March* 19, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 23, Commercial, of the 10th December of last year, relative to the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856, I have the honour to transmit herewith the translation of a letter I have addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash, expressing my dissatisfaction that, notwithstanding the assurances given me by the Vizir that full powers would be sent him to treat with me, he had declined since his return to Tangier to enter upon the negotiation, on the plea that he had requested the Sultan to excuse him.

From a late conversation I have had with Cid Mohammed Bargash, I am led to believe that his backwardness to enter upon the negotiation chiefly proceeds from the instructions he tells me he had received from the Sultan when he was at Rabat, and which appear to be of a very unfavourable character. I expressed my surprise and dissatisfaction that he had not communicated to me before the purport of these instructions, which are of an earlier date than the above-mentioned letters from the Vizir, requesting me, by order of the Sultan, to transmit to the Court a further copy of the draft of the proposed Convention for His Majesty's consideration, for I had awaited the arrival of Cid Mohammed Bargash before I complied with this request, as I had wished to learn, in the first place, his opinion and intentions, so that when I transmitted the draft to the Sultan I might be better prepared to combat any objections that may have been raised by His Majesty's advisers at the Court to the alterations which are introduced in the draft Convention.

I have requested Cid Mohammed Bargash to lose no time in replying to my letter of the 15th March, and I shall have the honour to transmit a translation of it to your Lordship when I receive it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

March 15, 1882.

(Translation.)

ELEVEN months have elapsed since I addressed you on the 13th April last, transmitting, as requested, the draft of the revised Convention of 1856 and my observations thereon, but I have not received any written communication from you on this important subject, though since your return to Tangier you have made known to me verbally that you have requested His Majesty the Sultan to relieve you from the duty of entering upon this negotiation.

In a letter I received from the Vizir, dated 22 Hadjats, 1298, he informed me, by order of the Sultan, "that, as the negotiation of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 was conducted in the time of Mulai Abderrahman by your predecessor, Cid Mohammed Khateeb, in like manner, you will have to treat with me regarding its revision," and in a subsequent letter, dated 12 Safar, 1299, the Vizir requested me to transmit to the Court copies of the draft of the Convention, and confirmed in friendly language the desire of His Majesty to give the matter his serious consideration, which, as you are aware, is in accordance with the XIVth Article of the Convention of 1856, containing an especial stipulation that, after the expiration of four years, either of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right to call upon the other to enter upon a revision of the same. I will not conceal from you that the backwardness which has been shown by you to aid in bringing about an improvement of the commercial relations between the two countries has left an unfavourable impression upon my mind, for I had hoped the experience you have in all subjects connected with the trade of this country, and your knowledge of the beneficial results which would be derived by the removal of needless trammels which now obstruct its development, would have led you, as a faithful officer of the Sultan, to have given your ready aid in promoting the object we have in view, and which ultimately would lead to an improvement of the revenue, and, above all, it would dispose the merchants of Great Britain, and indeed of all countries, to take a deeper interest in the future of this country.

You have had unceasing proofs of the friendly policy of the British Government towards the Sultan, and of their anxious desire to uphold His Majesty's independence and the integrity of his dominions; but the strong interest taken in the welfare of Morocco may wane when it is found that the Sultan and his advisers decline to entertain propositions which are made in a friendly spirit to promote their own welfare, for commerce and agriculture, as no one knows better than yourself, are the root of the prosperity of all countries, and consequently of their Governments.

A friendly alliance is not an affair of sentiment. To be durable it must be based on common interests and reciprocal advantages. If the Moorish Government will take no steps to improve commerce and the state of its subjects, it cannot expect that Great Britain or other friendly Powers will continue to take an active and lively interest in a Government which turns a deaf ear to their counsels.

I beg you to bear in mind that, though Morocco is as large and fertile as most countries in Europe, yet, as little or no encouragement has been given to agriculture or to the removal of trammels from commerce, it remains the poorest and therefore the weakest of all foreign Powers.

I request you to give me a written reply to this letter, as it is my intention to submit the matter to the serious consideration of the Sultan on my approaching visit to the Court.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 69.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(*Received April* 4.)

(No. 7. Commercial.)

Tangier, March 28, 1882.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 6, Commercial, of the 19th instant, on the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce, I have the honour to transmit translations of two letters addressed to me by Cid Mohammed Bargash in reply to my letter to him of the 15th instant.

In the first letter, Cid Mohammed Bargash makes known to me the instructions he had received from the Sultan six months ago, containing arguments and reasons why the

proposed reductions in the Tariff and other alterations in the draft Convention cannot be entertained.

The instructions to Cid Mohammed Bargash are of anterior date to the letter of the Vizir requesting me to transmit a further copy of the draft of the Convention to the Court for the consideration of the Sultan, and informing me that Cid Mohammed Bargash would empowered to treat with me.

In the second letter, Cid Mohammed Bargash states that he has informed the Sultan that his time is too much occupied to allow him to give his attention to the negotiation, and begs His Majesty to exempt him from this duty.

In my despatch No. 6, Commercial, of the 19th instant, I informed your Lordship that I had deferred transmitting a further copy of the draft of the Convention to the Sultan, as I had wished to learn, in the first place, Cid Mohammed Bargash's opinions and views, not being cognisant until I received his letter of the 20th instant of the nature of the instructions he had received, and which, he has since avowed to me confidentially, were of such an unsatisfactory character that he had delayed communicating them to me.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of my reply to the two letters of Cid Mohammed Bargash. I did not think it advisable to comment on the foolish reasons given for objecting to the proposed alterations in the draft Convention and reduction of export duties, as on my approaching visit to the Court I hope to have an opportunity of discussing them with the Sultan himself, whom I have found to be far more intelligent and better disposed than any of his advisers.

I am also led to suppose that on His Majesty's application to me for a further copy of the draft Convention he had wished to keep from his "Oolama" and other advisers, that he intended to reconsider the matter.

When I negotiated the Convention of Commerce in 1856, the same opposition was offered by the Oolama, but Sultan Mulai Abderrahman, in consequence of my repeated representations, finally rejected the counsels of his ignorant advisers, and appointed Cid Mohammed Khateeb, who was then Minister for Foreign Affairs, to negotiate the Treaty. Sultan Abderrahman, though at that time a very old man, had an iron will, and was not enervated, as his grandson Mulai Hassan is, by sensual indulgence in the harem.

I will not conceal from your Lordship that I apprehend I have a very difficult task before me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

Cid Mohammed Bargash to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.) 1*st Joumad* 1, 1299 (*March* 20, 1882).

WE received the letter you addressed us on the 13th April of last year, transmitting the draft for the proposed revision of the Convention of Commerce, &c.

We duly submitted these documents to the exalted presence of our Lord as requested, and we received a reply when we were at Rabat, but deferred communicating it to you until we should return to Tangier.

The tenour of His Majesty's reply is as follows:—That His Majesty had received the draft and other documents referred to in your letter, and that the subject had been taken into His Majesty's consideration.

With regard to what you suggest, that questions regarding commerce should not be submitted to the decision of Oolama, it is contrary to our religion not to take their opinion. With regard to your suggestion to consult merchants and former Administrator of Customs, this is very proper.

As to your supposition, that the revered grandfather of our Lord the Sultan had not taken counsel with the Oolama on such a subject, he may, God have mercy on his soul, had no doubt taken their counsel, for a Treaty could not have been entered upon without learning their opinion that no injury would be suffered thereby to the Treasury or to the Mussulmans, or that anything was stipulated contrary to the "Shraa" (Mahommedan Law); therefore, there is no doubt the Oolama were consulted, and that His Majesty had also other counsellors who were competent to give opinions in these matters, or others of a secret or public character. These counsellors had approved the proposal to enter on a new Convention of Commerce, and therefore it was entered upon voluntarily and not compulsorily.

With regard to the building of houses and stores by merchants it cannot be admitted, for contracts have been entered into and concluded with them, and have nearly expired. When the buildings are finished, then it will be decided what should be done.

With regard to your suggestion about the exportation of minerals, His Majesty approves. Several Representatives have also given similar counsels, and His Majesty intends either to have the mines worked by himself or by others on the payment of Royalty, but the matter is still under consideration. His Majesty finds excellent your advice about giving encouragement to and increasing the agriculture of the country. His Majesty has taken up this matter, and has the intention of doing all in his power to increase it if God has mercy upon his people by sending a bountiful rain.

Four papers and the draft of the proposed revised Convention have been placed under the inspection of experienced administrators, who have given the matter their serious consideration, as also all you suggest. It appears to them that to reduce export duties by half on grain or other produce could never be agreed to, and the reason is patent to every one, for it is evident that when there is an excess of produce which is not required by the population it can be exported, and there will be always a demand for it, and it will not remain without being exported; but if only half the export duties are paid there will only be half the receipts at the Customs, and the Treasury is in need of money.

With regard to the exportation of wheat and barley, and that it should be stipulated by Treaty, this cannot be. We do not wish to separate ourselves from that which had been agreed upon before regarding these or other grain. Sultan Mulai Ahderrahman on this account would not allow the free exportation of wheat and barley, and wished to retain the power of exporting these articles or not, as he pleased, as is stipulated in the Convention of Commerce.

Any reduction of duties on oil or wool would be prejudicial to the receipts of customs. Even if the trade became more active in the exportation of these articles from the reduction of duties, the receipts of customs would never amount to what is received by the present duties.

With regard to the importation of sulphur, saltpetre, and sabres and pistols on the payment of 10 per cent., instead of being a Government monopoly, it might cause prejudice, as these are not articles for trade, and being war material are only imported by the Government, for the free purchase of such articles by the tribes would only produce trouble and internal conflicts. Sulphur is only sold to the population by the Government for what they require for domestic purposes. The smuggling of it is small, and even if it was great, it would not be so injurious as freedom of trade in it.

With regard to the exportation of horses, mules, and other animals, and timber and palmetto, and like articles, it cannot be admitted, for the population require them, and their benefit and welfare are preferable to that of the receipts of customs at the ports. The population would complain and oppose the exportation of articles which they require. The character of the Moors is very different from that of other people, especially when they find that any change is to be effected in their established customs. Several Governments have made similar representations on this subject, and a reply has been given to them in the same sense.

With regard to your suggestion, that instead of exporting grain by fanega it should be done by weight, so as to save trouble,—if it is found there is no injury from this, and no objections are raised by other Representatives on account of existing Treaties, His Majesty will give direction that it be carried into effect.

In conclusion, when you proposed the revision of the Convention of Commerce, His Majesty had supposed that you would only introduce such alterations as had been effected in consequence of the Madrid Convention, and therefore he had agreed to it on account of the benefit which would be derived to the Treasury, and had agreed to enter upon the revision of the Convention when you visited the Court; but it was under this understanding, and he never supposed that any stipulation would be introduced which might lead to a reduction of the Treasury receipts or be prejudicial to his subjects.

The Sultan still continues to have confidence in your excellent wisdom, and says that your suggestions and counsels will always be taken into consideration; but, as you are aware, every country has peculiar views, according to their understanding of what may lead to their welfare, and no one can so well understand the true interests of a country as the inhabitants themselves.

We have communicated all this for your information. Peace.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BARGASH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 69.

Cid Mohammed Bargash to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.) *2nd Joumad*, 1299 (*March* 21, 1882).

WE have received your letter of the 24 Rabea 2nd, and we understood all you say regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce, and that you request us to reply to your letter and to that you addressed us on the 13th April of last year, transmitting the draft of the proposed Convention, together with your observations respecting the alterations to be introduced in the Convention of 1856; and you also communicate to us the substance of the letters you had received from the Vizir, dated 22 Hedjats, 1298, and 12 Safer, 1299. In the Vizir's letter you inform us he observed that, as the Convention of 1856—in the time of Sultan Mulai Abderrahman—was negotiated by our predecessor, Cid Mohammed Khateeb, we in like manner will be empowered to treat with you.

Know, O esteemed friend, that we desire to attend to what is written to you by the Vizir, but we wish to state that when the subject of the revision of the Convention was first mentioned, and the Sultan desired that the negotiation should be conducted by us, we begged His Majesty to excuse us, on account of the multifarious affairs we have to attend to, and we have really no time, so we had begged His Majesty to appoint some one else to treat with you. His Majesty had acceded at that time to our petition, and we still continue to beg His Majesty to excuse us, and you can understand that we have not the leisure to attend to such a matter, for the negotiation of a Treaty requires complete attention, and a person who is constantly engaged in other questions cannot have time to attend to it. Even as it is, we hardly find time to eat or sleep. How could we attend to the negotiation of a Convention, especially as it is not you alone but other Representatives desire to enter upon new Treaties? We implore you, as an act of friendship to us, not to ask the Sultan to empower us to treat with you. We have sent you the reply to your first letter on this subject.

Peace.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BARGASH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 69.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

(Translation.) *March* 26, 1882.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 1st and 2nd Joumad.

In your letter of the 1st you communicate the substance of the reply you had received from the Sultan several months ago when you were at Rabat, in which arguments are brought forward and reasons are given why His Shereefian Majesty objects to the propositions which have been submitted to His Majesty for reducing the Tariff of duties on the export of grain and other articles, and for the abolition of obstructive regulations which are considered to be prejudicial to trade, and of others which encourage smuggling. In your letter of the 2nd you state the reasons why you had requested the Sultan not to empower you to negotiate the revision of the Convention, and you request me to abstain from urging His Majesty to appoint you as his Plenipotentiary.

I have to express my regret that you had not communicated to me when you were at Rabat the orders you had received from His Majesty to reply to my letter of the 13th April of last year, transmitting the draft of the proposed Convention, and that you had deferred until now to inform me that His Majesty had declined to entertain the propositions which were submitted to him for the improvement of trade between the two countries, for had I received this communication before, I should not have awaited your arrival at Tangier to enter upon the negotiation (having been led to conclude from the letters of the Vizir dated 22 Hadjats, 1298, and 12 Safer, 1299, that full powers had been already sent you to treat with me), but I should have transmitted without delay, as requested by the Sultan, the draft of the proposed Convention and my observations.

In the above-mentioned letters from the Vizir, which, you will remark, are both of subsequent date to that you had received from the Sultan, I am led to hope that His Majesty in his wisdom, after due reflection, has decided upon reconsidering the friendly suggestions that have been made by Her Majesty's Government through me for the improvement of trade, and I may add thereby the increase of His Majesty's revenue, to which so much importance is naturally attached.

Under these circumstances, I will not attempt upon this occasion to refute or to explain why I do not accept the arguments you have been directed to bring forward for not entertaining the alterations which it is proposed to introduce in the revised Convention; but I cannot refrain from declaring that the opinions of those great men who in past and present times have aided in establishing the pre-eminence and wealth of Great Britain as a commercial country above all other countries in the world are totally opposed to the illiberal views upon trade which the advisers of the Sultan appear to have inculcated upon His Majesty's mind.

You observe that "every country has its peculiar views according to their understanding of what may lead to their welfare, and that no one can so well understand the true interests of a country as the inhabitants themselves." To this I have to reply that the impoverished state of the inhabitants of Morocco, which is as large and as fertile as the majority of the great States of Europe, its insignificant commerce and revenue, the very small land forces at the disposal of His Majesty, and numerous other proofs of weakness and poverty, as contrasted even with the smallest Powers in Europe, tend to show that those who have had the government of this country in their hands, and who have advised the Sultan not to entertain the friendly counsels which have been offered, have pursued and are pursuing a system and policy which have not led to the improvement of this country, but to its gradual decay and ruin.

You who have had great experience in commercial transactions will, I trust, admit the sad truth of these remarks, and that in expressing to you thus freely my opinions, I am solely animated by sincere feelings of friendship, and by a desire to awaken you and other counsellors of the Sultan to the necessity of introducing reforms, and of taking decided steps to improve agriculture and to develop trade.

On my approaching visit to the Court I shall take an opportunity of again submitting my views to His Majesty, as I have every confidence in His Majesty's wisdom and friendly feelings, and that His Majesty is convinced that I have no other object in view than his welfare and that of his subjects.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 70.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 1. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, April 13, 1882.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 6 and 7, Commercial, of the 19th and 28th ultimo relative to the proposed revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco.

I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve your action in the matter, as reported in those despatches. I leave to your discretion the further steps to be taken, whether to press the negotiation or to postpone it, according as, on your visit to the Sultan, you may, under all circumstances, think to be best.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 71.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 8. Commercial.)

Morocco, April 29, 1882.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, in my audience on the 26th instant, I had a lengthened conversation with the Sultan on the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce. Your Lordship will learn the language I held to His Majesty, and the arguments I put forward, from the accompanying translation of a Memorandum which has been delivered to His Majesty.

It may, perhaps, appear strange that I should have resorted to such simple arguments, but I found the Sultan was so imbued with foolish prejudices and antiquated ideas regarding trade, that I made use of language which I thought might best serve to remove his erroneous views.

I will not encroach on your Lordship's time by reporting all that the Sultan said in reply to my observations. His Majesty's chief arguments against the reduction of duties

on exports were, that so long as an article to be exported was in demand the reduction of duties was unnecessary, and would only decrease the receipts of customs, and that his revenue at present did not suffice to cover expenditure; that his "hands would be tied" by the Convention if he was not at liberty to impose prohibitions on the exportation of produce, and that a greater freedom of trade in the exportation of grain and the removal of the prohibition on the exportation of horses, cattle, &c., might give rise to serious complaints on the part of his subjects, as prices thereby must rise and create a scarcity.

I need hardly report to your Lordship my replies, for my conversation was very diffiuse, and lasted nearly two hours. I brought it to a close by telling His Majesty in courteous language that, though I entertained a very high opinion of His Majesty's wisdom in matters connected with his foreign policy and the general conduct of affairs of State, yet that, as His Majesty had allowed me to speak with frankness and without reserve, I would not conceal from him that his views and arguments on the subject of trade showed that he had not studied the subject, and had formed erroneous opinions based upon the maxims of ignorant counsellors, who encouraged him to persist in a system which had led to the wretched and impoverished state of this country. I told His Majesty that I also was not well versed in matters of trade, but I had read and studied the works of the great men who had brought about the prosperity and enormous commercial wealth of Great Britain, and I was therefore better prepared to discuss these questions.

The Sultan took in good part my observations, and, at my suggestion, agreed to appoint two of his chief officers in the Treasury, who had visited England and other parts of the continent for commercial purposes, to read over the draft of the Convention with me, and to hear the views and arguments I might bring forward, and present a Report thereupon to His Majesty before further steps were taken in the negotiation.

Two intelligent well-informed officers, named Cid Bennassar Granam* and Cid Abdessalam Gelool, called on me yesterday by order of the Sultan, and we read over carefully each Article and also my remarks thereupon in the margin.

They informed me before leaving that they generally coincided with the views I had expressed regarding the expediency of removing many of the existing obstructions on exports, but that they thought that the reduction of duties proposed were too great, and that if any reductions were agreed to, they should be gradual. They said they had no powers to accept or to reject the Articles of the Convention, or to make any propositions, but that they would communicate to His Majesty, as he had ordered, the impression that had been left on their minds by the language I had held to them.

As in the course of conversation with the Sultan, on the 26th instant, His Majesty had repeatedly remarked that he desired to avoid having "his hands tied" by Treaty stipulations, as he considered that every Sovereign should have a right of controlling, without restraint, the exportation from and importation of merchandize into his dominions, and that, having heard that his ancestors had not been tied down by Commercial Conventions, he would be glad to learn from me what was the system pursued in ancient times up to the conclusion of the Convention of Commerce of 1856.

I delivered to one of His Majesty's Secretaries, Cid Emfadl Garneet, who had been sent especially by the Sultan, a Memorandum of the language I held to that officer, which afforded to His Majesty the information he required. I annex a translation of the document.

I cannot say, at the present stage of the negotiation, what the Sultan will decide, but I do not expect to be enabled to conclude during my visit a Convention which would contain an acceptable Tariff fixing reductions of export duties.

His Majesty has already observed to me, "There can be no necessity for a hasty negotiation," as the drought and general misery throughout the southern provinces must prevent the exportation of grain and all other comestible articles. I therefore expect that, as His Majesty is on the eve of departure on the expedition to Soos, he will propose to send Commissioners to Tangier, to continue the negotiations in the autumn, when His Majesty will have returned to Fez; but this is mere conjecture on my part.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

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* A son-in-law of Cid Mohammed Bargash.—J. H. D. H.

Inclosure 1 in No. 71.

Memorandum of Sir J. Drummond Hay's Language to the Sultan on April 26 regarding the revision of the Commercial Convention.

THE reductions proposed in the Tariff of export duties, though urgently recommended for your Majesty's consideration, are open to discussion and modification; the Commissioners who may be empowered to treat should therefore state the reductions they are prepared to accept.

It should be borne in mind that no Government, except that of Morocco, imposes duties on exports.

Experience teaches that a country increases in wealth in proportion to its exports of agricultural produce or manufactures.

Heavy duties on exports are like shackles on an overladen pack-animal: it cannot do the same work as an animal which is unshackled and cared for by its owner.

The poverty of Morocco, as contrasted with the smallest countries in Europe, even Denmark or Greece, though the soil of Morocco is richer and the extent of territory far greater, is the best proof that this country has been misgoverned, and that those who have guided the Sovereigns by their counsels, both as regards commerce and agriculture, have been ignorant of the principles which have brought about the wealth and power of European nations.

No other Government imposes prohibitions on the exportation of grain, animals, &c. Freedom of trade does not impoverish the countries who practise it, but, on the contrary, enriches them. Temporary prohibitions are unnecessary, for when prices of articles of export rise from scarcity exportation will cease until prices fall, and there is plenty.

No other Government puts duties on exports or imports of native produce proceeding by sea from one port to another. Prices of grain, &c., would be equalized if facilities of conveyance by sea were afforded, and His Majesty's subjects would not, as at present, be suffering in one part of his dominions from famine prices, whilst in other parts provisions are plentiful.

The Government of Great Britain desires the prosperity of Morocco, and as the British nation has become wealthy and powerful by following sound principles in commerce, &c., they desire to see the Government of the Sultan follow in the path which has led to such happy results. A blind adherence to what is called "ada" (ancient customs), which has led to the poverty of this country, will, if persisted in, bring about the complete ruin of the population.

It is not in any way our wish to interfere with your religious laws or tenets, but, on the contrary, recommend that there should be a stricter observance of those laws, which it is known ordain justice and honesty.

The value of Moorish exports and imports from Great Britain amount to about 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 dollars yearly—"It is but a small tributary stream to the vast ocean of trade;" then pointing to a fountain playing in front of His Majesty, I observed, "It is like that slender stream compared to the great Seboo River." The amount of exports from and imports into Great Britain average daily about 9,000,000 dollars: you can understand, therefore, that the trade of Morocco is insignificant to us; but in urging you to follow our counsels, the aim is not so much to benefit British trade as it is to awaken the Government of Morocco to the necessity of pursuing a different course than they have hitherto done, if they desire to become rich and powerful.

If, on the other hand, your Majesty persists in not admitting any alteration in a system which has brought about the impoverished state of your Majesty's subjects, and consequently an empty Treasury, you cannot expect that the British Government will contiuue to take an earnest interest in a Government which has turned a deaf ear to their warnings; and hereafter, should they be appealed to in a moment of misfortune or perplexity, the reply may be, "Seek counsel from those who have advised you not to follow our suggestions. Upon them rests the responsibility of your misfortunes."

Foreigners have inquired, Why does the British Government continue to take an interest in a Government which refuses to enter upon a path of reform, and adheres to abuses which are leading to its ruin? Why not abandon it to its fate, and await the events that may follow?

Upon the reply that may now be given to the counsels which have been offered to your Majesty depends much how these inquiries are to be answered.

The time is approaching when I shall withdraw from official life, and seek for rest in my own country. If I see there is no hope of improvement and reform I shall hasten my departure, so as not to witness the ruin to which this country is rapidly gliding.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 71.

Memorandum of Language held by Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Emfadl Garneet.

(Translation.)

HIS Majesty the Sultan inquired of me yesterday how the commerce of Morocco was conducted, and also what were the duties imposed upon exports and imports in the old Treaties between Great Britain and Morocco in the time of Sultan Mulai Abderrahman and of his predecessors. I replied that I had not the old Treaties with me, so could not give a precise reply to His Majesty's query.

On my return to this residence, I referred to documents which enable me to inform His Majesty that in the old Treaties, before the Commercial Convention of 1273 (1856) was concluded, there was no fixed Tariff arranged between the two Governments, and trade therefore depended entirely on the will of the Sultan and the caprice of his advisers.

Duties were increased or lowered as the Sultan might command, without any fixed term, and were sometimes altered two or three times a-year. Merchants could not, therefore, conduct their business with any security. These duties were increased or diminished, as favoured merchants might obtain Shereefian orders to the Customs officers through presents to His Majesty, or by the bribery of his advisers.

Monopolies of goods exported or imported were also granted in the same manner to favoured merchants. A company of merchants offered, through me, to my brother, who was then Vice-Consul at Tetuan, 20,000 dollars to become their partner, on the condition that I should not oppose the monopoly of wool being established. I spurned the offer, and succeeded in preventing the establishment of that monopoly.

During this state of affairs the Sultan's hands were free, but the customs receipts were insignificant. The Sultan's advisers and Customs officers became, however, very rich.

Sultan Mulai Abderrahman finally became convinced that this was a deplorable state of affairs, and entered, as advised by me, into the Convention of Commerce, which put a stop to these abuses.

Sultan Cid Mohammed, when I visited him at Rabat, said, "My revered father was told that the Convention would bring about a loss to the Treasury; it has, on the contrary, increased the receipts. We pay Spain half the customs, we pay you the interest on the loan, and what remains is more than what the customs receipts amounted to before the Commercial Convention of 1856. We thank you."

Let His Majesty Mulai Hassan consider all this. If he listens to our counsels even in part, His Majesty may some day thank me also for the advice I have offered.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 72.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 2. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 26, 1882.*

I APPROVE your proceedings in regard to the negotiations for the conclusion of a Commercial Conventiou with Morocco, as reported in your despatch No. 8, Commercial, of the 29th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 73.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 29.)

(No. 11. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Morocco, May 15, 1882.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 8, Commercial, of the 29th ultimo, regarding the negotiation for the revision of the Convention of Commerce, I have experienced the greatest difficulty in making any progress in the negotiation, as the Sultan has evinced considerable reluctance to a discussion of the reduction of duties on exports, especially on cereals, during the present distress of his subjects caused by the failure of the crops in the southern provinces for the last four years.

I had several lengthened conversations with the Vizir, with Cid Aly Mesfeewy, the Minister of Justice, and the two* Commissioners appointed especially by the Sultan, and I am happy to say that they all appeared to concur with my views. An officer at the Court, named Cid Mohammed Tazy, who holds a position similar to that of Minister of Commerce, has been my chief opponent in advising the Sultan not to enter upon the revision of the Convention of Commerce.

I will not encroach upon your Lordship's time by recounting all that has passed, both verbally and in writing, upon this subject with the Sultan and the members of his Government, for I think your Lordship will best learn the result of my labours and the step which has been made in advance by the perusal of the letter addressed to me by the Vizir, of which I herewith transmit a translation, in which he is directed by His Majesty to inform me that when the crops of next year give hopes of a good harvest, Commissioners will be sent to Tangier to discuss with me the reductions to be effected in the Tariff and other matters connected with the revision of the Convention of 1856. The appointment of Cid Abdessalam Ahardan, which has been done at my suggestion, is, I trust, a proof of the desire of His Majesty to entertain in a fair spirit the propositions put forward for the improvement of trade, as that officer is distinguished for his liberal views upon all matters connected with trade.

As I had received from several British merchants at the Moorish ports Petitions requesting that I should endeavour to obtain the immediate removal of the prohibition on the exportation of minerals and bones, as there are at present hardly any other articles of export in consequence of the dearth that prevails, I took advantage of my audience of His Majesty this morning to take leave to recommend that the Petition of the merchants should be complied with. His Majesty acceded without hesitation to my suggestion. This is also, I trust, an indication of an alteration in His Majesty's views, and that he is better disposed to listen to our counsels for entering upon a more liberal system in trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 73.

Vizir Mokhtar to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

Translation.) 27 *Joumad II*, 1299 (*May* 15, 1882).
(After compliments.)

WE have received the draft containing the Articles, &c., which it is proposed to introduce into the Convention of Commerce on its revision, and we have brought it under the consideration of His Shereefian Majesty, as also the language held by you to the Domana† upon this subject. His Majesty has replied that he entertains no doubt that the friendly counsels of your powerful Government, as expressed through your medium, are given with the view of promoting the welfare of his dominions, the increase of their prosperity, of their wealth, and of trade; but you are well aware that, at the present time, the population is in great distress, caused by the successive droughts. If God in His mercy blesses His creatures with plenty, that which is proposed will be facilitated if it please God; but His Majesty is of opinion that the proposed reduction of duties on grain will be injurious to the customs receipts, which are much needed at the present time. Should hereafter the price of grain in your or other countries fall, so that merchants would not find it profitable to export grain from this country (with existing duties), His Majesty will then take into consideration what reduction of export duties may be found advisable. With regard to the exportation of wheat and barley, which is now prohibited, if God grant a plentiful harvest hereafter, our Lord will take into consideration the counsels of your Government, who say that the increase of the agriculture and of the wealth of nations depends, in great measure, upon the facilities afforded to commerce by exportation, but our Lord desires, should he permit it (the export of wheat and barley), to retain the power of placing a prohibition when necessary, as is stipulated in the whole Convention (of 1856) signed by Khateeb.

With regard to the proposed reductions of duties on other articles exported, His Majesty thinks they are too great, but he says that when there is an improvement and better prospects, he will send two Commissioners to Tangier to discuss all these details, and he will empower the Administrator Cid Abd-es-Salam Ahardan to act with them, and will direct also that they treat with you regarding the duties to be placed upon articles

* See No. 8, Commercial, of April 29, 1882.
† Commissioners.—J. H. D. H.

which are not mentioned in the Tariff of the existing Convention, such as the minerals of these dominions and other articles, and to place duties according to their value in foreign countries. They will also treat with you regarding the reduction of export duties upon the manufactures of this country, such as carpets and like articles, and regarding the reduction of duties on articles now introduced by smuggling, such as silk, &c.

Our Lord the Sultan desires us to state that the Commissioners who will be empowered to treat upon these matters cannot finally conclude anything, nor can that which may be agreed upon be put in force until a reference has been made to His Majesty, and that which is proposed has been duly considered by him. Then whatever His Shereefian Majesty may accept will be made known to his Minister, Cid Mohammed Bargash, who will receive full powers to sign and conclude the Convention.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN-EL-MOKHTAR.

No. 74.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 4. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 5, 1882.

I HAVE to convey to you my approval of your proceedings in regard to the revision of the Convention of Commerce with Morocco, as reported in your despatches No. 8, Commercial, of the 29th April, and No. 11, Commercial, of the 15th ultimo.

Her Majesty's Government are fully aware of the difficulties of this negotiation, and are well satisfied with the manner in which you have met them, and with the results which, up to the present time, have been obtained. I am willing to leave to your discretion the further steps to be taken in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 75.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 19.)

(No. 14. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, June* 12, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, approving my proceedings in regard to the negotiation for the conclusion of a Commercial Convention, as reported in my despatch No. 8, Commercial, of the 29th April.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 76.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 5. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, March* 22, 1883.

WITH reference to the despatches marked in the margin* on the subject of the proposed revision of the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco of 1856, and more especially to the translation of the letter addressed to me by the Vizir when I was at the Shereefian Court last year, informing me, by order of the Sultan, that when an improvement took place in the agricultural prospects of the country Commissioners would be dispatched to Tangier to treat with me, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by Cid Aly Mesfeewy, Minister of the Interior and Justice, in reply to a private letter I had addressed him, reminding him of the assurances I had received upon this subject. Cid Aly Mesfeewy says the Sultan is prevented by the distress which prevails, and the high prices and scarcity of all produce, from carrying out His Majesty's intentions, which I am given to understand are not abandoned.

As an abundance of rain has fallen, and the reports from the interior of the agricultural prospects are favourable, though the land has only been partially

* Nos. 68, 69, 71, and 73.

cultivated in consequence of the farmers having very little seed and few cattle to employ in the cultivation of the land, I thought it advisable to send a reminder of the promise which had been made to me.

I addressed Cid Aly Mesfeewy instead of the Vizir, as the former is more especially the Confidential Adviser of the Sultan, and was one of the persons sent by His Majesty to discuss with me the propositions I had made, and who drew up, as I was informed, the above-mentioned letter addressed to me by the Vizir.

Under the present circumstances, and until there is a more marked improvement in the state of the country, I shall refrain, subject to your Lordship's approval, from taking any further steps for the present in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 76.

Cid Aly Mesfeewy to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 27 *Rabea II*, 1300 (*March* 7, 1883).

WE have received your letter, and have understood what you say regarding the promise made to you during your visit to the Shereefian Court last year, that some of the Sultan's secretaries would be appointed to negotiate with you the revision of the Convention of Commerce at Tangier when the Sultan returned from his expedition to Soos, and you state that, on your return from the Court, you had made this known to the British Government, who had expressed their satisfaction, and that you still await the fulfilment of this promise, and you request us to make this known to the Shereefian presence.

Know, our esteemed friend, that our Lord the Sultan still desires to carry out the said intention, but you are aware in what a state the country is, and what distress prevails amongst the people from the scarcity and dearness of every thing in consequence of the continuous droughts, and that years of misfortune has fallen on them.

Peace.

(Signed) ALY MESFEEWY.

No. 77.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 4. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 3, 1883.

I APPROVE the suggestion made in your despatch No. 5, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo, that, under present circumstances, further action shall be deferred with respect to the proposed revision of the Commercial Treaty of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 78.

Earl Granville to Count Münster.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, December* 17, 1883.

WITH reference to your Excellency's inquiry as to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government respecting a Commercial Treaty with Morocco, I have the honour to acquaint you that the matter at present stands in the following position:

On the occasion of the visit of Sir J. Hay, Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, to the Moorish Court in the early part of 1878, he was instructed to propose a revision of the Convention of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco, and after some correspondence on the subject a new draft Convention was drawn up in the summer of 1881, when Sir John Hay was on leave of absence in this country.

I regret to say that little progress has been made in the negotiations since that date. The Sultan of Morocco has on several occasions intimated his intention to dispatch Commissioners to Tangier to treat with Sir John Hay, but hitherto His Majesty has refrained

from doing so, alleging that the agricultural distress and scarcity of produce which has prevailed in his dominions make it undesirable to effect any changes in the fiscal arrangements in Morocco.

I may add, M. l'Ambassadeur, that Sir John Hay has throughout this business acted in concert with his German colleague, Dr. Weber. I inclose a copy of the draft of Convention prepared in 1881 for your confidential information;* but under the circumstances above stated, it cannot be considered to be definitely settled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 79.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 6. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 19, 1883.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copy of a note which I have addressed to the German Ambassador at this Court on the subject of the revision of the Commercial Convention with Morocco.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 80.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received February 2.)

(No. 2. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Tangier, January* 26, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 6, Commercial, of the 19th ultimo, transmitting copy of a letter addressed by your Lordship to the German Ambassador, stating the position of the negotiation regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco.

With reference to this subject, and to the despatch No. 5, Commercial, I addressed your Lordship on the 22nd March of last year, I propose, should your Lordship approve, to address a letter to the Vizir reminding him that the Sultan had engaged to send Commissioners to Tangier to treat with me for the revision of the Convention of Commerce when an improvement took place in the agricultural prospects of this country, and the inhabitants had recovered from the distress occasioned by the continuous failure of the crops during four years, which had paralyzed trade.

I propose to take this step, as the crops of last autumn were abundant, and as rain, though late, has now fallen, and it is to be expected that the ensuing harvest will be good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 81.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 1. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 4, 1884.

I APPROVE your proposed action as reported in your despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, as regards the engagement on the part of the Sultan of Morocco to send Commissioners to Tangier for the purpose of treating with you respecting the revision of the Convention of Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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* Inclosure in No. 62.

† No. 78.

No. 82.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received March 15.)

(No. 6. Commercial.)

Tangier, March 7, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 2, Commercial, of the 26th January, I have the honour to transmit a translation of the reply of the Vizir Mukhtar to a communication I had addressed him regarding sending officers to Tangier to treat with me for the revision of the Convention of Commerce.

Since I wrote to your Lordship on the 26th January no rain had fallen in the interior, and fears are entertained that the crops of wheat and barley will fail. Rain has fallen this month, but I fear it is too late for the farmers to sow wheat and barley.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Vizir Mohammed Ben-el-Arby Ben-el-Mukhtar to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

February 29, 1884.

(After usual compliments.)

WE have received your letter on the subject of the dispatching to Tangier from the Shereefian Court persons selected to negotiate with you the revision of the Convention of Commerce, as last year's harvest, on which their being sent depends, was abundant, and it appears to you that it will be good again this year: you state that the object you have in view is to augment the commercial relations, and thus increase the welfare of the subjects, and to strengthen the ancient ties of friendship which exist (between the two countries).

We brought your letter under the consideration of His Shereefian Majesty, and he has taken into consideration all you have said, and he (may God assist him) has ordered me to reply to you, O friend, upon this, that when there are more certain signs as to the state of the crops this year, which depends upon the Will of God, and satisfactory information is received from the ports, His Majesty will dispatch to you persons to treat with God's aid.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN-EL-ARBY BEN-EL-MUKHTAR.

No. 83.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 6.)

(No. 9. Commercial.)

Tangier, May 28, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 6 of the 7th March last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that a heavy fall of rain has taken place, and that the crops in the interior were not only saved, but are very plentiful.

Under these circumstances, I addressed a note to the Vizir, urging that the prohibition on the exportation of wheat and barley should be removed, as had been promised, and that the Commissioners for negotiating the revision of the Convention of Commerce should be dispatched to Tangier.

I have received a reply from the Vizir that the Commissioners had been detained, as the Government were preoccupied in consequence of the threatening attitude assumed by the French Minister at Tangier, which had led them to apprehend that a rupture of relations and war were imminent, but that as soon as they feel assured that the danger of hostilities has passed, the Commissioners will be dispatched to Tangier to treat with me, as had been promised.

I have also received information which leads me to hope that the prohibition on the exportation of wheat and barley is about to be removed in consequence of the repeated representations I have made upon this subject.

I have the honour to suggest that, when the Commissioners arrive, I be authorized to engage Mr. Benjamin Carver, a highly respectable merchant at Gibraltar, late Chairman of the Exchange Committee, who has had business transactions with this country for many years, and has a knowledge of the Arabic language, to come over to Tangier from time to time to aid in regulating the proposed alterations in the Tariff of exports, and that

remuneration for the services he may be enabled to render may hereafter be granted by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 84.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 6. Commercial.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1884.

I APPROVE your proceedings with the view to obtain the removal of the prohibition to export wheat and barley from Morocco, as reported in your despatch No. 9, Commercial, of the 28th ultimo.

With respect to your proposal to engage the services of Mr. Benjamin Carver in connection with the revision of the Moorish Tariff, I have to observe that it is not apparent that such assistance is necessary. Her Majesty's Consul at Tangier, or some person connected with the Legation or Consulate, ought, it would seem, to possess sufficient knowledge of the trade of Morocco and of Arabic to be able to transact this business with the Moorish Commissioners under your supervision. Merchants interested in particular branches of foreign trade usually render services in connection with it in the course of commercial negotiations without asking or expecting remuneration. No engagement for payment of services or expenses must be made with Mr. Carver or with any other person in connection with the revision of the Moorish Tariff except on previous authorization.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 85.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received August 18.)

(No. 18. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 10, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 75 of the 27th ultimo, informing your Lordship that I had received a letter from the Vizir announcing that the dispatch of the Commissioners for negotiating the revision of the Convention of Commerce has been deferred in consequence of the attention of this Government being entirely taken up with the troubles produced by the proceedings of the Shereef of Wazan, I have the honour to transmit a translation of the Vizir's letter and of my reply.

I expressed to the Vizir my dissatisfaction that such an unreasonable excuse should have been put forward for deferring the negotiation, and I pointed out that, as the desire of the Sultan is to consolidate his throne after the late attempt to subvert it, no step that His Majesty could take would be more conducive to attain this object than the development of trade between Morocco and other countries.

The Sultan is surrounded by ignorant counsellors, especially one named Hadj Mohammed Tazy, who is the chief officer of customs and taxes. He is opposed to the removal of restrictions, and the diminution either of duties or taxes, impressing on the untutored mind of the Sultan that reductions must produce a diminution in the receipts of the Treasury. The same unwise policy is pursned in levying taxes and oppressive contributions on the rural population.

A Moor of high position in the interior, who cultivates large tracts of land, informs me that the farmers are so disheartened by the levying of heavy taxes, and having no mart for their produce, that many have left their crops uncut, and will probably not cultivate their lands next year. General discontent, of course, prevails, which may ultimately lead to revolution.

On a reference to past despatches, and the numerous notes I have addressed this Government, urging the necessity of reform and a more liberal policy, your Lordship will, I think, find that, though my advice has not been followed, I could not have employed firmer or more decided language unless I had resorted to terms of menace. Having, therefore, hitherto failed, I do not expect better attention will now be paid to my counsels.

The British and other Governments interested in the maintenance of the integrity of Morocco had obtained, through their friendly representations, an assurance from the French Government of its desire to maintain the *status quo*, and to avoid proceedings which might produce disturbance and bring about the downfall of the Sultan.

The result of their action has checked for a time the manifest intentions of French statesmen. With due deference to your Lordship's better judgment, I beg to submit whether it is not the bounden duty of those Governments, to whom the Sultan is indebted for his independence and throne, to require, and even to insist in firm and friendly language, that His Majesty should reform the administration of the country, and introduce measures which may lead to the welfare of his subjects, the development of trade, and to civilization; and that, if His Majesty does not listen to their advice, he must not expect for the future their friendly aid. I had expressed a similar opinion in past despatches.

The state of barbarism and misrule which exists in this country, situated within sight of Europe, and of the British Colony of Gibraltar, is a disgrace to civilization, more especially as Morocco is possessed of grand resources, which, if properly developed, might make it not only an important granary, but also a rich mart for British manufactures. The inhabitants are a manly and intelligent race, and, like their ancestors in Spain, if they were justly governed, and there was better security for life and property, might become a great and powerful nation, capable of maintaining their independence without external aid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 85.

The Vizir to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After the usual preamble.) 26 *Ramadan*, 1301 (*July* 19, 1884).

WE received your letter, requesting that the persons appointed to negotiate with you the revision of the Convention of Commerce should be sent to Tangier, and that one of them should be Cid Abdassalam Ahasdan, as you consider him to be an able man, and intelligent and trustworthy.

We communicated to His Shereefian Majesty your letter, and he has taken what you say into consideration, and he directed us to reply, and to remind you that the Government is still occupied unceasingly in seeking to correct the disorders produced by the Wazani, such as the employment of a Khalifa ("Lieutenant") at Wazan, the disaffection brought about by him amongst the inhabitants of the village Aim Haman, of Anjera, and their consequent disobedience to their Governor; so much so, that they refused to deliver that which is due from them, amongst which that which is owing on account of the robbery of the house of your clerk, Novella. They repelled the troops sent by the Government to be quartered upon them to establish order. In consequence of these things, a force has been dispatched to encamp in their district, and to chastise them for their disobedience. Amongst other infractions committed by him (the Shereef of Wazan) is that he has interfered with the action of the Governors in behalf of persons who do not belong to his (the Shereef's) farms, and therefore he has no right of interference. One of his (the Shereef's) irregular acts has been to appoint an "emkuddam" (as chief) in his farms, and that this person is told to collect tithes and taxes and deliver the proceeds to him, and that he should then deliver them to the Governors. Whereas, the arrangement entered into through Cid Mohammed Bargash was to confirm only the privileges he (the Wazani) enjoyed before with His Shereefian Majesty, amongst which was that he should be treated with honour and respect, but that the people employed in his farms should be under the jurisdiction of the Governors of the districts where they dwell, and that they should be under the Governor's control, and that he (the Governor) should collect the tithes from them.

When these irregular proceedings have been corrected and put a stop to, with God's help, the Commissioners shall be sent and Ahasdan be appointed to act with them.

Make your mind easy on this subject, O esteemed friend. We are sure you will understand the excuse we have now offered and will accept it.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN-EL-ARBY MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 85.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizir.

ranslation.)
(After usual compliments.) *August* 7, 1884.

I HAVE received your letter of the 28th Damadan (19th July), making known to me that the attention of the Government is so entirely taken up with the irregular proceedings of the Shereef Hadj Abdeslam of Wazan, that they defer sending to Tangier the Commissioners to treat with me for the revision of the Convention of Commerce until affairs become more settled.

It is with considerable dissatisfaction that I received this reply, which I will not conceal from you leaves the impression in my mind, and no doubt upon that of Her Majesty's Government, that it is a fresh excuse put forward to evade the fulfilment of the promise made to me when I visited the Moorish Court in 1882.

The dispatch of a large force to the district of Anjera and to other provinces to quell rebellion and to assert His Shereefian Majesty's authority I can perfectly understand is a subject of grave importance, but I cannot admit that such a matter can have so entirely absorbed the mind of His Shereefian Majesty and of his Ministers so as to prevent a negotiation for the adoption of measures which may lead to the development of commerce, and consequently to the welfare of His Majesty's subjects and to the improvement of His Majesty's revenue.

That which it would appear preoccupies at the present time so entirely the mind of His Shereefian Majesty is the desire to consolidate his throne after late events. I wish to submit to His Shereefian Majesty the following observations for his serious consideration and reflection.

His Shereefian Majesty made a late appeal to several friendly Powers, and amongst them to that of Great Britain, to aid in extricating His Shereefian Majesty from his perplexed position, and to maintain friendly relations with the powerful Republic of France. That appeal was not made in vain, and the French Government has given to Her Britannic Majesty's Government and to other foreign Powers assurances that their Representative has been directed to avoid proceedings which may create disturbances. The friendly conduct of these Governments, I need not point out, has brought about results which no forces at His Majesty's command would have succeeded in doing. To retain the friendly interest of those Governments ought therefore to be the aim of His Shereefian Majesty.

Sovereigns and Governments, as I have repeatedly pointed out, are not guided in their alliances and friendships by sentiment, but chiefly by the material advantages which are mutually derived through the intercourse of their subjects and commerce.

The Government and people of Great Britain cannot be expected to continue to take a warm interest in a Government which, blind to its own interests, will take no step to improve its commerce, and thereby the welfare of its subjects. The trade of Morocco, which is unimportant as contrasted with that of other countries, has diminished and is diminishing. I have received reports from Mogador and other ports showing this year a considerable diminution both in exports and imports, and that many merchants, native and foreigners, have discontinued business or are ruined. The harvest has been abundant, but instead of the exportation of wheat and barley being open to trade as I had urged, and was given to understand would be granted, the unwise measure has been adopted by the Government of monopolizing the sale, and shipping it through favoured parties, thus committing a grave infraction of Treaty stipulations. Very heavy tithes in kind, it is reported, are exacted from the farmers, so that many of them do not find it worth while to reap their standing corn, and will probably not be disposed next year to cultivate land, since all profits from their labour are taken from them. The farmers are, moreover, discouraged in any attempt to increase the cultivation of land by finding the markets of Europe closed against them by the high restrictive duties imposed on the exportation of grain, in addition to heavy taxes.

All these facts have been made public, and the question will naturally be asked why foreign Powers, and amongst them Great Britain, should seek to uphold a Sovereign and Government which turns a deaf ear to the friendly and disinterested advice given to it to bring about an improvement of commerce, the welfare of its subjects, and I may add that of the Sultan himself.

In conclusion, I desire to impress upon the mind of His Shereefian Majesty, as a true friend, that the first and most important step to be taken to obtain the continued friendly support of foreign Governments, and especially that of Great Britain, in the maintenance of his independence and the integrity of his dominions, is the development of commercial

relations between Morocco and other foreign countries, and the introduction of measures to improve and encourage agriculture.

I request you to give me early notice of the time that may be fixed for the dispatch of the Commissioners to Tangier, and I trust that the instructions they may receive from His Shereefian Majesty may be of such a character as to facilitate the negotiation for the development of trade between Morocco and Great Britain.

Peace.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 86.

Mr. Lister to the London Chamber of Commerce.

Foreign Office, August 26, 1884.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 21st instant, respecting the revival by the Moorish Government of monopolies in agricultural produce, and suggesting that with a view to the prevention of such monopolies commercial negotiations should be entered into with Morocco; and I am, in reply, to inform you that this matter is receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 87.

Mr. White to Earl Granville.—(Received October 2.)

(No. 28. Commercial.)

Tangier, September 26, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day received a letter from the Vizir, acquainting me that the Commissioners for negotiating the revision of the Commercial Convention will be sent to Tangier immediately on the return of Sir John Drummond Hay to Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE.

No. 88.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 20. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, October 21, 1884.

Sir,

I WAS glad to learn from Mr. White's despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, that the Moorish Government had at last made arrangements for commencing the negotiations for the revision of the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco.

I have to request you to assure the Moorish Government that Her Majesty's Government would be pleased to see more extended commercial relations between the two countries. Such relations tend materially to increase and to strengthen the bond of friendship between nations and Governments.

There can be no doubt that one of the principal obstacles to trade in Morocco are the export duties. Her Majesty's Government can well understand that in the present state of economic knowledge in Morocco, the Sultan should hesitate to remove these duties, lest his revenue should be thereby diminished. But His Majesty may rest assured that in Morocco, as in other countries, it would be found that if people were freely permitted to sell abroad the surplus for which there is no market in Morocco, the amount of goods imported in return would increase so as to make the import duties more than compensate for the loss of the export duties, while the well-being and happiness of His Majesty's subjects would be greatly increased by the enjoyment of the many articles of foreign produce and manufacture which they would gladly procure had they the money to do so; but at present they have not the money, because the export duties so raise the price of the goods exported that no market can be found for them; industry is thus discouraged and land falls out of cultivation.

In the same manner Her Majesty's Government trust that the Sultan's Government may be induced to lower the import duties on those articles which are most used in Morocco, for in this case also it would be found that the diminution in price consequent on the lowering of the import duty would so increase the consumption, that the lower duty would produce a greater revenue beside promoting the welfare and comfort of the people.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 89.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1884.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 5th instant, containing observations on the part of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce with respect to the existing state of commercial relations between this country and Morocco, having regard especially to the high rate of duty charged in the latter country on the export of grain.

I am, in reply, to acquaint you that the subjects of commercial relations with Morocco generally and of the revision of the existing Treaty has for some time past engaged the attention of this Office and of Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, who uses his best endeavours on behalf of British commercial interests, and whose exertions are fully approved and supported by Her Majesty's Government.

I am to add that a copy of your letter will be forwarded to Sir J. D. Hay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 90.

Mr. Haydon to Earl Granville.—(Received January 26.)

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, Exchange, New Street,
January 24, 1885.

My Lord,

I AM directed by the Council of this Chamber to transmit to you the inclosed Memorial.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYDON, *Secretary.*

Inclosure in No. 90.

Memorial.

TO the Right Honourable the Earl Granville, K.G., &c., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Memorial of the Council of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce

Respectfully sheweth:

THAT your memorialists have had under their consideration the desirability of the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce between this country and Morocco.

That the ports of Morocco are within four days' journey of England, and that the natural richness of the soil of Morocco is very great as regards the production of grain, vegetables, fruit, the rearing of cattle, &c. It appears, therefore, to your memorialists that the Government of this country should make strong endeavours to hold the highest possible place in the estimation and counsels of the Moorish Government, and particularly that our trade with that country should be placed on a basis compatible with the requirements of the inhabitants, its productive capacities, and the general advance of civilization.

Your memoralists therefore pray that Her Majesty's Government will endeavour, at an early date, to negotiate a Treaty of Commerce between this country and Morocco.

(Signed on behalf of the Council of the said Chamber),
(Signed) H. L. MÜLLER, *Chairman.*
W. F. HAYDON, *Secretary.*

Offices of the Chamber, Birmingham,
January 24, 1885.

No. 91.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Haydon.

Foreign Office, January 28, 1885.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th instant, inclosing a Memorial from the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce respecting the existing state of commercial relations between this country and Morocco.

I am, in reply, to state that this question is receiving the attention of this Office and of Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, who is using his best endeavours on behalf of British commercial interests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 92.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 30.)

(No. 4. Commercial.)

Tangier, January 22, 1885.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 20 of the 21st October last, on the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco, and to the despatches, marked in the margin,* which I have addressed to your Lordship, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that in a letter addressed to me by Cid Mohammed Bargash on the 11th instant, in reply to my representations, his Excellency says, "As to the Convention of Commerce, we have again written to the Court of our Lord on the subject."

Four months have elapsed since the Vizir informed Mr. White, during my absence, that the Commissioners for negotiating the revision of the Convention would be sent to Tangier on my return. I have repeatedly reminded the Moorish Government of this promise.

In replying to the letter of Cid Mohammed Bargash, I shall repeat the dissatisfaction I feel, and which, I am persuaded, will be felt by Her Majesty's Government, that the promise made to send the Commissioners has not been fulfilled, especially as the revision of the Convention will be, as I shall point out, for the benefit of the trade and agriculture of this country, as well as of the revenue of the Sultan.

I am led to believe that unwise counsellors of the Sultan have succeeded in impressing upon his mind that the reduction of duties on exports, which is the most important of the proposed alterations to be effected in the Convention of 1856, will diminish the receipts of customs.

The proscrastination, apathy, and negligence of this Government in all such matters are disheartening.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

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* No. 6, March 22; No. 7, March 28; No. 8, April 29; No. 11, May 15, 1882; No. 5, March 22, 1883; No. 2 January 26; No. 9, May 28; No. 18, August 10; No. 28, September 25, 1884.

No. 93.

Mr. Haydon to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received January 30.)

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, Exchange, New Street,
January 29, 1885.

My Lord,

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, for which I am obliged; the same shall be laid before the Council at their next meeting.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYDON, *Secretary.*

No. 94.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 3. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, February 2, 1885.

Sir,

I APPROVE your proceedings as reported in your despatch No. 4, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo, with respect to the revision of the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 95.

Memorial of the Cardiff Incorporated Chamber of Commerce.

To the Right Honourable Earl Granville, K.G., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Memorial of the Cardiff Incorporated Chamber of Commerce

Sheweth:

THAT your memorialists respectfully ask your Lordship's attention to the national importance that a Treaty of Commerce with Morocco should receive the careful attention of Her Majesty's Government at the earliest possible moment.

Your memorialists will not trouble your Lordship by repeating what has been fully set forth in a communication dated the 21st August last, addressed to you by the London Chamber of Commerce, and in which this Chamber thoroughly concurs.

Your memorialists beg that your Lordship will be pleased to give the matter your usual careful attention, and they will ever pray.

Affixed the seal of the Cardiff Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, the 10th day of February, 1885.

(Signed) W. L. HAWKINS, *Secretary.*

No. 96.

Mr. Currie to Mr. Hawkins.

Foreign Office, February 11, 1885.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial signed by you on behalf of the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce, dated the 10th instant, relative to the question of commercial relations between the United Kingdom and Morocco; and I am, in reply, to inform you that this matter is receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 97.

Mr. Hole to Earl Granville.—(*Received March* 19.)

Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom,
1, Great College Street, Westminster, March 18, 1885.

My Lord,

I AM instructed by the Executive Council to forward you a copy of the following Resolution, which was passed unanimously at the recent annual meeting of this Association, representing sixty-four Chambers of Commerce :—

"That this Association strongly urges upon Her Majesty's Government the great desirability of negotiating a Treaty of Commerce with Morocco, providing facilities for the entry of British goods into Morocco under the lowest possible scale of duties, and the export from that country, free of duty, of natural products of all kinds; together with facilities for landing goods at, or exporting produce from, all ports or possible trading stations."

The Council hope that this matter will receive your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HOLE.

No. 98.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Hole.

Foreign Office, March 21, 1885.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, dated the 18th instant, and signed by you, on behalf of the Executive Council of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, respecting the commercial relations between Great Britain and Morocco; and I am, in reply, to state to you, for the information of the Executive Council, that this matter is receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 99.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(*Received March* 30.)

(No. 10. Commercial.)

Tangier, March 20, 1885.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 4 of the 22nd January, on the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce, I have the honour to transmit an extract from a letter I had addressed the Vizir upon this subject, and upon other pending questions, and the translation of his reply, which has just reached me.

The excuse put forward by the Vizir that other Representatives have also applied for a revision of Treaties with Morocco, and that, therefore, no step can be taken without "the consent of all," appears to me unreasonable, and it would seem that the object the Sultan and his Ministers have in view is to defer, under one pretext or another, the execution of the promise made to me when I was at the Court in 1882, that Commissioners would be sent to Tangier to negotiate the revision of the Convention.

Germany has no Treaty with Morocco, and it will be found, on a reference to the correspondence marked in the margin,* that it was arranged that, when a negotiation for the revision of the Convention between Great Britain and Morocco took place, I should keep my German colleague, M. Weber, informed of the progress of the negotiation, and should act in concert with him in endeavouring to obtain the removal of restrictious on trade, &c. I have been careful, up to the present time, to keep M. Weber informed of the steps I have taken, and of the difficulty I have experienced in inducing this Government to fulfil their promises.

It is reported that the Portuguese Government have expressed a desire to enter upon a new Treaty, and, also, that it is the wish of the French Government to revise their Treaty with Morocco.

I shall await your Lordship's instructions before I reply to the Vizir, but I propose to take an opportunity of speaking to the French Minister, M. Feraud, who has assured

* To Earl Granville, No. 9, April 15, 1881; Earl Granville, No. 6, December 19, 1883.

me of his readiness to co-operate in all matters which affect the general interests of trade and navigation, and who, I am happy to add, has already given good proof of the sincerity of his assurances; and I shall let him know the terms of the reply of the Vizir, and say that, if the report regarding the intention of the French Government to enter upon a negotiation, for introducing stipulations into a new Treaty, with the view of improving trade and navigation in this country is correct, as we have a common interest, and as no privilege could be obtained by one Power, which would not be equally ceded to the other, it would be desirable for us to come to an understanding regarding the alterations which we might recommend should be introduced in the existing Tariff, and the introduction of other measures for the benefit of commerce, and to make this Government understand that in such matters there could not be any rivalry or opposition between us.

I propose to use similar language to the Portuguese Minister, and to any other colleagues who I may learn have expressed the desire of their Governments to effect a revision of the commercial stipulations in their respective Treaties; and I trust your Lordship will approve, for it is evident that this Government hopes that the plea put forward of the risk of giving offence to any one Power, by a preference being shown to us in commencing the proposed negotiation, will be accepted, whereas I should wish, in my reply to the Vizir, to be enabled to say that the Representatives of those Powers who have expressed a desire to enter upon new Treaties, have assured me that, far from being a source of complaint, they will be pleased to learn that the negotiation for the revision of the Convention of Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco would be commenced at once, as the removal of the restrictions upon trade will be for the benefit of all foreign subjects, as well as for British subjects, engaged in the trade of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—Since writing this despatch I have seen M. Feraud. He said that he had not as yet received any definitive instructions on the subject of negotiating a Treaty with Morocco; but he added that he would always be ready to co-operate with me in seeking to remove restrictions upon trade, and that he considered the excuse put forward by the Vizir for deferring the negotiation unreasonable, as any concession obtained would be for the benefit not only of English, but of all foreign subjects.

J. H. D. H.

Inclosure 1 in No. 99.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizir.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, February 4, 1885.

SINCE my return to Tangier in October, I have addressed several letters to Cid Mohammed Bargash and to Hadj Mohammed Torres upon the subject of the revision of the Convention of Commerce, and upon various claims of British subjects. The former neglects to reply or to fulfil his written engagements, the latter informs me he transmitted my letters to the Shereefian Court, but he received no reply.

Under these circumstances, and as I have received instructions from Her Majesty's Government to report upon all these pending affairs, and to explain how it comes to pass that better attention is not paid to my representations, there remains no other course for me than to address myself to the Sultan through you, and to request that by this express courier categorical replies be given to the various matters which I now submit through you to His Shereefian Majesty, and I will transmit your replies, when received, to Her Majesty's Government.

When I was at the Moorish Court in 1882 the Sultan engaged to send Commissioners to negotiate a revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856 in accordance with the provision made in Article XIV of that Convention.

Various pretexts had been put forward for delay in sending the Commissioners as had been promised, but on the 27th Kaadeh (17th September, 1884) you addressed a letter to Mr. White, who was in charge of the Legation during my absence, stating that on my return the Commissioners would be sent. Three months and a-half have elapsed and this promise has not been fulfilled. I have again to require that the Commissioners be sent at once, and that they should receive such instructions as may satisfy Her Majesty's Govern-

ment that it is the desire of His Shereefian Majesty to meet their wishes for improving the commercial relations between the two countries.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 99.

The Vizir to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) *Fez, Rabia II*, 29, 1302 (*February* 15, 1885).

WE have received your letter requesting that the persons appointed to negotiate the revision of the Convention of Commerce with you should be sent, and that orders be given to them in accordance with the wishes expressed by your powerful Government.

We communicated your letter to His Shereefian Majesty, and he has had under his consideration all that you have stated, and His Majesty has ordered me to reply that, with respect to what you mention regarding orders being given to the Commissioners in accordance with the wishes expressed by your friendly Government, it cannot be done, for several of the foreign Representatives have requested the renewal of Treaties; it is therefore necessary to do that which may be effected with the consent of all; this, from your clear judgment, you will understand.

Under any circumstances, however, His Majesty is considering how it can be arranged without prejudice to either party, in His Majesty's desire to meet your wishes, and he will order the two persons appointed to procced to Tangier to negotiate.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN EL MOKHTAR.

No. 100.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 13. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, March 31, 1885.

Sir,

I APPROVE your proceedings, as reported in your despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 20th instant, on the question of the revision of the Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco. I have to request that you will continue to act in this matter in concert with other foreign Representatives who may be willing to co-operate with you in regard to it. The objects to be more particularly kept in view are the removal of restrictions on trade and the adoption of a Customs Tariff, the duties in which shall be moderate in amount, and be assessed on principles which are applicable to the trade of Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 101.

Mr. W. H. Hill to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(*Received May* 21.)

Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, Glasgow, May , 1885.

Sir,

I BEG respectfully to send you herewith a Memorial in connection with Morocco, and shall deem it a great favour your presenting it, on behalf of the President and Directors of this Chamber, to Earl Granville.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. HILL, *Secretary.*

No. 102.

Memorial of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures in the City of Glasgow.—(*Received May* 21.)

To the Right Honourable Earl Granville, K.G., Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Downing Street, London.

The Memorial of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures in the City of Glasgow; instituted by Royal Charter in 1783; confirmed in 1860,

Respectfully sheweth:

THAT the Directors of this Chamber have had brought to their consideration the expediency of endeavours being made to promote the development of the trade of this country with Morocco.

That although Morocco, so far as this country is concerned, is a market of old standing, yet the trade with it has been of a non-progressive character, and in some respects, of late years retrogressive.

The Directors of the Chamber consider that this is largely attributable to the prohibition of the export of wheat, barley, and cattle, and to the excessive duties charged on grain allowed to be exported, as maize, beans, &c. Also to the arbitrary exactions often made by Governors, which deprive industrious Moorish subjects of the security of enjoying the fruits of their labour.

The Directors believe that were the restrictions on trade removed, or greatly lessened, and security offered to traders and others by the Government of Morocco, a large and important trade in grain, cattle, and minerals from that country would speedily be developed, and a valuable opening afforded for the importation of British goods and merchandize.

With this view the Directors of this Chamber beg leave respectfully to urge on your Lordship the great desirability of negotiating a new Treaty of Commerce through the British Minister Resident at Tangier, for the immediate abrogation of the limitations on trade, and particularly of the prohibition of the export of grain, cattle, and minerals existing in the Anglo-Moorish Convention of 1856.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Signed in name and on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures of Glasgow, and by authority of the Directors thereof, this day of May, 1885.

(Signed) JAS. BAIN, *President.*

No. 103.

Mr. Lister to Mr. Bain.

Foreign Office, May 26, 1885.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial signed by you on behalf of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, relative to the question of trade between the United Kingdom and Morocco; and I am, in reply, to inform you that the subject of commercial relations with Morocco, generally, is receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 104.

Mr. K. Murray to Earl Granville.—(*Received June* 10.)

The London Chamber of Commerce, 84-85, *King William Street, London, June* 9, 1885.

My Lord,

THE London Chamber of Commerce, together with many other Chambers of Commerce throughout the kingdom, have requested your Lordship to permit instructions to be given to Sir John Hay authorizing him to endeavour to negotiate a new Treaty of Commerce on the most modern and liberal lines with the Government of Morocco.

This Chamber has been given to understand that, if sufficient expression of public opinion in favour of a Commercial Treaty with Morocco were made, it would be possible to obtain the necessary concessions from the Sultan. Further, this Chamber understands that Sir John Hay's period of office may terminate within the next year or eighteen months. It is therefore desirable that every opportunity should, under your Lordship's direction, be taken of Sir John Hay's presence at Tangier, and of his Excellency's well-known influence with the Moorish Court, to obtain the negotiation of this Treaty during his Excellency's presence in Morocco.

The London Chamber need hardly call your Lordship's attention to the urgency and increasing necessity for providing, at every opportunity, improved facilities for the transaction of British trade in foreign markets. Morocco is believed, by those best acquainted with the country, to offer considerable probabilities for the development of trade, not only with Morocco itself, but with the surrounding districts of North-western Africa. This Chamber is therefore specially desirous, in view of the facts that the political horizon appears to be somewhat clearer, and that the Governments of Continental Europe are endeavouring, more and more, to compete with this country in its foreign commercial policy, that every opportunity should be taken by Her Majesty's Representatives to obtain the most favourable terms for the export of British, and the import of foreign, produce in exchange.

It would be gratifying to this Chamber, therefore, if it were possible for your Lordship to state that it is now the intention of your Lordship's Department to press for the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce with Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) KENRIC B. MURRAY, *Secretary.*

No. 105.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 17. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, June* 15, 1885.

Sir,

I INCLOSE, for your information, copies of correspondence with the London Chamber of Commerce on the subject of a Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Morocco.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 106.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. K. Murray.

Foreign Office, June 15, 1885.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 9th instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to acquaint you that Sir John Hay has given and will, his Lordship feels satisfied, continue to give his best attention to the question of negotiating a new Commercial Treaty between this country and Morocco; but His Lordship will, nevertheless, forward to him a copy of your letter under reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 107.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 20. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, September* 24, 1885.

Sir,

I HAVE had under my consideration, in consultation with the Law Officers of the Crown, your despatch No. 25, Consular, of the 3rd ultimo, asking for instructions with regard to the enforcement by fines or otherwise of the Sanitary Regulations framed by the Morocco Board of Health, to which you have assented on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. I am advised that the British Consul may, under Article 1 of the Morocco

* Nos. 104 and 106.

Order in Council, make a British Regulation "for the peace, order, and good government of Her Majesty's subjects being within the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco," in the terms of the proposed Regulations of the Morocco Board of Health. All the provisions of the Order in Council with regard to such Regulations, their publication, &c., must of course be observed.

A Regulation so made could be enforced by such fines as are proposed.

The amounts of such fines so levied would, however, under Article 33 of the Morocco Order in Council, have to be paid to the public account, and could not be paid into the local funds for cleansing the town without an amendment of the Order in Council.

Provision will be made in the new Order in Council now under consideration to remedy this difficulty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 108.

Verbal communication made by Count Plessen, October 1, 1885.

THE Imperial German Government have had since many years the desire of concluding a Commercial Treaty with Morocco, but the existing circumstances did not seem to favour such a plan.

But now the Imperial Government consider it useful to approach the question more energetically.

Our officials in Tangier have been instructed to ask the Sultan of Morocco to send Delegates to Tangier with whom negotiations might be opened; our former Minister Resident, M. Weber, and his newly-appointed successor, M. Testa, have been intrusted with the negotiations on the part of Germany, and have been instructed to bring them to a speedy conclusion. Both are about to proceed to Tangier from Berlin.

From former Reports of our Representative at Tangier we know that England has been in negotiations with Morocco for the conclusion of a Commercial Treaty, but that the negotiations are at present at a standstill.

The German Government are of opinion that English and German trade interests in Morocco are identical, and they think that in view of the impending German negotiations the English Government might, perhaps, consider it opportune to reopen their negotiations with Morocco.

I have, therefore, been instructed to inform Her Britannic Majesty's Government of the steps the Imperial Government are taking, and to say that if Her Britannic Majesty's Government should think that a joint action would be useful to further the common interests of both countries, the Imperial Government are prepared for such an action, and would instruct their Delegates accordingly.

No. 109.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 21. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, October* 5, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the negotiation of a new Commercial Treaty with Morocco, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a Memorandum communicated by the German Chargé d'Affaires, stating the present position of the commercial negotiations between Germany and Morocco, and suggesting joint action between the German and British Governments in the commercial negotiations which they are respectively now conducting with the Moorish Government.*

I also inclose a copy of the note which I have addressed to Count Münster, accepting, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, this proposed joint action; and I have to request that you will accordingly proceed in the negotiation in concert with the German Representatives.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* Nos. 108 and 111.

No. 110.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 22 B. Commercial. Confidential.)

Foreign Office, October 5, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to my preceding despatch, I have to observe that it is not understood that there is or need be any divergence between the commercial interests of Great Britain and Germany in Morocco, or in the aims of their respective negotiations for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties. In the event of your entertaining doubt, or wishing for instructions on any point, you will be so good as to communicate with me at once on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 111.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Münster.

Foreign Office, October 5, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorandum which Baron Plessen communicated on the 1st instant respecting the present position of commercial negotiations between Germany and Morocco, and joint action between Germany and Great Britain in the negotiations which they are respectively now conducting with the Government of Morocco.

In reply, I beg to state that Her Majesty's Government have much pleasure in accepting the proposal for joint action in these negotiations, and that instructions will be sent at once to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier to act with the German Representatives in the matter. I would add that the instructions already addressed to Sir J. Hay, stated generally, are that the objects to be more particularly kept in view should be the removal of restrictions on trade, and the adoption of a Customs Tariff, the duties in which shall be moderate in amount, and be assessed on principles which are applicable to the trade of Morocco.

Sir J. Hay's experience in Morocco, and his knowledge of the requirements of trade in that country is so extensive, that it has not been thought necessary to supply him latterly with instructions on points of detail. It has been thought preferable to await his Report when the negotiations with which he is intrusted have made progress before giving him instructions on matters of detail, in case it should be necessary to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 112.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 21.)

(No. 25. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 15, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 21, Commercial, of the 5th instant, transmitting copy of a Memorandum communicated to your Lordship by the German Chargé d'Affaires regarding the commercial negotiations between Germany and Morocco, suggesting joint action between the German and British Governments in the negotiations they are respectively conducting with the Moorish Government, and inclosing a copy of a note which your Lordship has addressed the German Ambassador accepting, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, this proposed joint action, and directing me, accordingly, to proceed in the negotiations, in concert with the German Representatives.

On a reference to past correspondence it will be found that, in pursuance of instructions I had received from Her Majesty's Government, I had kept my late German colleague, M. Weber, informed of the steps I had taken to obtain a fulfilment of the promises made to me by the Sultan in 1882 to send Commissioners to Tangier to negotiate the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856, and I now learn, with considerable

satisfaction, from the Memorandum of Count Plessen, that he returns to Tangier with his successor, M. Testa, to continue the negotiation, and that your Lordship desires that I should act in concert with them.

I have taken every opportunity of urging the Sultan to fulfil the promises that His Majesty made to send Commissioners to negotiate the revision of the Convention; and though I lately received a private communication from the Court, in reply to the last Memorandum I had caused to be presented to the Sultan by Cid Mohammed Ben Suleiman, of which I transmit a translation, that Commissioners would be dispatched when His Shereefian Majesty arrived at the city of Morocco, I have not up to the present date received any further tidings upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Memorandum of Language held to Cid Mohammed Ben Suleiman by Sir J. Drummond Hay on the Subject of the Revision of the Convention of Commerce.

UNLESS the Sultan fulfils his promise and appoints one or more Commissioners to discuss revision of Convention of Commerce, Her Majesty's Government will continue to be dissatisfied and will put no faith in His Shereefian Majesty's assurances of friendship. Her Majesty's Government have received representations from the principal Chambers of Commerce, such as of London, Manchester, and other large towns, urging that steps should be taken to place the commercial relations of England with Morocco on a better footing for the benefit of the interests of both countries, and Her Majesty's Government have directed me to continue to urge that the negotiation for the revision of the Convention be commenced. I am told the Sultan has consulted Utama and Chief Umana (Administrators of Customs), and that they have expressed an opinion opposed to the removal of restrictions on exports, putting forward as a plea for such advice that the price of food would rise. Let His Shereefian Majesty reflect and consider whether these persons are wiser than the Wazara (Vizirs) of all the countries in the world, who have pursued a different policy in commerce. No other Government imposes duties and restrictions on exports, though many Governments impose heavy duties on imports of manufactures with the view of encouraging the manufactures of their own countries; but they remove all restrictions on exports, as they know that in so doing they increase the wealth of the country by encouraging agriculture and the industry of their subjects.

The United States export millions of fanegas of grain every year free of all duty, and hundreds of thousands of animals, and yet the wealth of that country increases every year. Living is dearer in the United States than in other countries, but every man is proportionally richer, and can pay for the means of his subsistence. To explain, I may say money is cheap, and that is a proof of the wealth of a country and of the welfare of its people. Experience has shown this, and His Shereefian Majesty has only to compare the state of his own realms, which are as large as France or Germany, with the state of those nations, and even of the smallest countries in Europe, even little countries like Denmark and Holland, where ice and snow stop agriculture for many months, and His Majesty will learn that Morocco, as contrasted with these countries, is poor and weak and has no resources. If His Shereefian Majesty asks why, the reply is because those nations pursue a commercial policy different from that which His Majesty's advisers recommend.

These countries increase in wealth and power; Morocco remains poor, weak, and defenceless. Let the Sultan, as I have said, appoint one or more Commissioners. Let them hear what we have to propose and the arguments we have to put forward. Let them state the objections they may have, if any, to the propositions we may put forward, and after due consideration of what may be stated by them and by myself, should we not agree, let a reference be made respectively to the Sultan and to Her Majesty's Government. They again will reply, and the negotiation will continue until an arrangement is entered into acceptable to both parties. It is unreasonable to suppose that the act of appointing a Commissioner is equivalent to the Sultan having agreed to accept all we may have to propose. His Shereefian Majesty will thus not only fulfil his promises, but will also be acting up to the Article in the Convention of Commerce of 1856, stipulating that either party, after the expiration of five years, can require a revision of the Convention. Let the Sultan be assured that the objects Her Majesty's Government and I have in view is not only to promote the commercial relations between the two countries and thus draw closer the ties of friendship, but also to promote the wealth and welfare of His Majesty's dominions.

No. 113.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 21.)

(No. 26. Commercial. Confidential.)

Tangier, October 15, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 22, Commercial, Confidential, of the 5th instant, in which your Lordship observes that it is not understood that there need be any divergence between the commercial interests of Great Britain and Germany in Morocco.

This is quite correct; there can be no divergence of interests, and I am especially pleased to learn that M. Weber is appointed joint Plenipotentiary, as the most cordial relations have always prevailed between us.

When I negotiated the Treaty of Commerce of 1856, I gave this Government clearly to understand that I sought for no especial concessions or favours to British trade, and that the Moorish Government should be prepared to grant to the subjects of all other foreign Powers that which might be granted to British subjects. I have acted on the same principles upon the present occasion, hoping thus to prevent opposition on the part of other Representatives.

M. Melhameh, the Dragoman of the German Legation, who is in charge of the Mission, called this morning to inform me that he expects M. Testa and M. Weber will arrive next week by a steamer from England. He made known to me also that, in pursuance of instructions received from M. Weber, he had dispatched a courier to the Vizir requesting him to inform the Sultan that it was desired that no delay should take place in the dispatch of the Commissioners to negotiate a Treaty between Germany and Morocco.

The Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, called upon me this morning, and I communicated to him the substance of your Lordship's despatch No. 21 of the 5th instant, and requested him to send off an express courier to the Sultan to repeat my dissatisfaction that the Commissioners had not been dispatched, and, further, to inform His Shereefian Majesty that, in pursuance of the instructions I had received from Her Majesty's Government, I should act in concert with the German Plenipotentiaries in future negotiations for the removal of existing restrictions on commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 114.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummand Hay.

(No. 23. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, October 24, 1885.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 26, Commercial, of the 15th instant, and to inform you that I approve the communications which you have addressed to the Moorish Government with regard to the negotiations for the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 115.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Münster.

Foreign Office, October 24, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

WITH reference to my note of the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco, stating that he has learnt with great satisfaction that Dr. Weber and M. Testa will be able to co-operate with him in bringing about the conclusion of a Commercial Treaty with Morocco.

Sir J. D. Hay says that he has taken every opportunity of urging the Sultan to fulfil the promise of sending Commissioners to negotiate the revision of the existing Convention; and that although he had lately received a private communication from the Court to the

effect that the Commissioners would be dispatched when His Majesty arrived at the city of Morocco, he had as yet heard nothing further on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 116.

MM. Weber and Testa to Prince von Bismarck.—(Communicated by Baron Plessen, November 4.)

(Translation.)

Tangiers, October 21, 1885.

WE have the honour most respectfully to announce to your Serene Highness that on our arrival here on the 17th instant, we found neither the Sultan's Plenipotentiaries, which had been asked from the Government for the opening of the negotiations respecting the Treaties to be concluded, nor even an answer from the Prime Minister, Hadsche Mohammed Ibn el-Arbi Ben el-Muchtar, to the letter from the Dragoman of the Imperial Residency, which had been dispatched to him as early as eighteen days previous, in pursuance of the order of the Foreign Office. His Shereefian Majesty, together with the Prime Minister and the troops, are now in the vicinity of Tadla, between Miknass and Marrakesch, far from the coast, so that messengers dispatched from this place to his camp require from seven to nine days to reach him.

In consideration of this circumstance, we have waited four days more for an answer from Hadsche Mohammed Ibn el-Arbi, but as none has come up to to-day, have decided to send a second messenger with a letter from us announcing our arrival, and again urging the immediate dispatch of the Plenipotentiaries.

We have not neglected to pay our visit to the Deputy-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hadsche Mohammed el-Torres, here, and have pointed out to him the importance and urgency of the mission wherewith we are charged. At our desire he expressed his readiness to send a letter on his part also to the Prime Minister, which we will intrust to our messenger.

In this letter he will recite the substantial tenour of our interview with him, and in particular will demand the immediate dispatch of Plenipotentiaries hither with the widest possible powers.

(Signed) WEBER.
TESTA.

No. 117.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 28?. Commercial.)

Tangier, October 31, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have just received a letter from Cid Mohammed Bargash, dated Rabat, the 24th October, making known to me that the Sultan has appointed Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada Commissioners to proceed to Tangier to negotiate with me the revision of the Convention of Commerce of 1856.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 118.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 13.)

(Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.)

Gibraltar, November 13, 1885.

FRENCH Minister proposed joint action in negotiation of Convention. Replied that I must refer such a proposal to your Lordship.

I have communicated this to-day to German Minister.

I have sent to your Lordship full explanations of what passed.

No. 119.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 24. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, November 14, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 31st ultimo, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the German Plenipotentiaries for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty with Morocco to Prince Bismarck, complaining of delays on the part of the Moorish Government.*

It is probable that the Commissioners named to negotiate with you will also be empowered to negotiate with the German Representatives; but if this is not the case you should make such suggestion as you think expedient to the Moorish Government, with the view to prevent further delay in the German negotiations.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 120.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

Foreign Office, November 14, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

WITH reference to the despatch from the German Plenipotentiaries in Morocco, which was communicated to me on the 4th instant by Baron Plessen, I have now the honour to inform your Excellency that Sir J. D. Hay reported to me on the 31st ultimo that the Sultan of Morocco has appointed Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abdul Hafeed Barrada Commissioners to negotiate with him respecting the revision of the Commercial Treaty of 1856 between Great Britain and Morocco.

I think it probable that these Commissioners will also be empowered to negotiate with the German Plenipotentiaries; but I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister, should this not be the case, to suggest to the Moorish Government to proceed without further delay with the German negotiations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 121.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 19.)

(No. 31. Commercial. Confidential.)

Tangier, November 10, 1885.

My Lord,

IN a conversation I had yesterday with M. Feraud, he took an opportunity of expressing his disapproval of the articles and paragraphs published in the local paper "Le Réveil du Maroc," and of the mischievous proceedings and intrigues of its editor, Levy Cohen, and sub-editor, a certain Pimienta, a native of Morocco, who being an agent of a mercantile firm of Marseilles, is placed under French protection. He observed that an attempt had been made to raise distrust in the mind of the public, on account of the joint action of Germany and Great Britain in the negotiation which is about to take place for removing existing restrictions imposed on trade in Morocco; and he informed me that an official person had suggested to him the expediency of his taking some step to check the combined action of those two Powers in Morocco, insinuating that they may seek to obtain especial privileges or concessions which might place French commerce in a less favourable position.

M. Feraud went on to say that he saw no reason to suppose any disadvantage could arise to French interests from the joint action of Germany and Great Britain in such a negotiation, as any concession or advantage which might be obtained would be equally enjoyed by French citizens, as being entitled by Treaty to claim the treatment of the most favoured nation, and that he did not suppose the British or German Government had in view any other object than the improvement of trade of Morocco for the benefit of their subjects, and, consequently, of all other nations.

* No. 116.

I assured M. Feraud that he had taken a very just view of the aim of the British and German Governments, and that there was not the slightest grounds for supposing that the joint action of the two Governments in this question was actuated by any other motive than that of a desire to develop the resources of this naturally rich but misgoverned country, by urging on the attention of the Sultan the importance of removing existing restrictions, especially on articles of exportation. I said that the same course would be pursued as was done when I concluded the Treaty and Commercial Convention with Morocco of 1856, and had distinctly informed this Government that we asked for no special privileges to British trade, and, therefore, that the Sultan should be prepared to admit that the subjects and citizens of all foreign Powers should possess the right of enjoying all privileges contained in the stipulations with Great Britain. This, I added, had been done, and the British Treaty and Convention of 1856, and the Spanish Treaty of 1861, concluded after the war, which, I added, is almost a *verbatim* copy of the wording of the British, have been accepted by all the Powers, as containing more advantageous stipulatious than the old Treaties of other Powers with Morocco.

I explained to M. Feraud that when I negotiated the Convention of 1856 I had obtained the abolition of monopolies and other privileges accorded to favoured native merchants; a reduction of duties on imports, which at that time varied from 30 to 15 per cent., to the fixed rate of 10 per cent. *ad valorem;* that on exports I had obtained some reduction of duties, but not all that had been desired, neither had I been able to obtain the removal of the prohibition on the exportation of wheat and barley, on account of the fanatical opposition of the Sultan's advisers, who objected to the exportation of food which might feed "Christians, the enemies of their faith." I said I had obtained, before I concluded the Convention in 1856, the consent of Sultan Mulai Abderrahman to allow the exportation of other grain, such as maize, beans, peas, &c., of which at that time hardly any were cultivated, as there was no market for exportation; and this trade had gradually assumed proportions of importance before the droughts and famines in 1878 and ensuing years look place, which was followed by great distress of farmers, producing a check upon agriculture.

I said that since the fall in prices of grain and other comestibles in Europe, owing to the vast influx of produce from the United States, had taken place, the duties fixed in the Tariff on exports of 1856, especially on grain, barely left a margin for merchants to make any profit; and, therefore I had for several years been endeavouring to induce this Government to agree to a revision of the Convention.

I gave M. Feraud an account of the promises made to me during my visit to the Sultan's Court in 1882, that Commissioners would be sent to treat with me, and how the keeping of that promise had been evaded, under various pretexts and excuses, observing that in treating with this Government I had never "held a pistol at their head" to obtain their consent to my representations, a system of diplomacy pursued, I said jokingly, "by your predecessor, M. Ordega," by the Italian Minister, and by the United States' Consul, so that when of late years there was any question at issue, a squadron or frigates were summoned, and the demands put forward were blindly granted, under the cannon's mouth. This mode of action, I observed, has rendered this Government very callous of late years in listening to friendly representations; but at last, I said, they have agreed to send Commissioners to negotiate with me, but I would not conceal from him I expected there would be a stubborn resistance to effecting any reduction of the duties on exports, on the plea that it will diminish the custom receipts, and other arguments proceeding from ignorance, and partly from fanaticism.

I made known to M. Feraud that in pursuance of instructions received from the German and British Governments, M. Weber, before his late withdrawal from Morocco, had acted in concert with me in endeavouring to induce this Government to remove restrictions on trade, and, therefore, our present joint action was merely a continuance of that concert. I observed to M. Feraud that if the negotiation was successful it would be beneficial to French trade as well as to British and German, and, therefore, I felt persuaded that when he had an opportunity he would advise this Government to accede to the friendly counsels which I and my German colleagues might give them to remove existing restrictions on exports.

M. Feraud replied that he would be happy to do so as it was a common interest, and that no more important step could be taken to bring about civilization and an improvement in this benighted country than the development of commerce; but he added that animated by such sentiments he had a proposal to make to me, which he did in the following language:—

"Can you not, as a Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, and having so great an experience in dealing with this Government, call a meeting of all the Representatives, or send a

Circular to propose that there should be collective action in urging upon this Government the necessity of improving the commercial relations with all countries by the removal of restrictions. If you will do this I engage to leave the initiative always with you, and to follow faithfully any step you may propose to take to further this object. To you, "he added," shall remain all the honour of the negotiation."

I replied that I was very sensible of the friendly and flattering manner in which he made this proposition, but that I could not take such an important step without distinct instructions from Her Majesty's Government, and that I avowed that there were certain Representatives here with whom I should prefer, for various reasons, to avoid co-operation upon any question connected with the trade of Morocco.

M. Feraud then said that he should report to his Government the language I had held to him, and the opinion I had given regarding our joint action with the German Plenipotentiaries in the negotiation which is about to take place, and that he should suggest that the French Government communicate with Her Majesty's Government, and propose that he should be instructed to act in concert with me and with the Representatives of Germany. He asked if I had any objection to his taking this step. I replied that I had not. I added that I should make known to your Lordship our conversation, and that I thought it would be right, also, that I should communicate to our German colleagues the proposition he had made. M. Feraud replied that he hoped I would do so, and that as M. Weber and M. Testa were invited to dine with him this week, he would take that opportunity of making known to them his views and propositions.

I called upon M. Weber the same afternoon and communicated to him the substance of M. Feraud's language. He concurred entirely with the reply I had given M. Feraud, and thanked me for having let him know, at, once, what had passed, and said that he would communicate it to M. Testa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—The German Minister, M. Weber, has just called, and informs me that he and M. Festa dined yesterday with M. Feraud, but the latter did not allude to the proposed negotiation. I have reason to believe that M. Feraud has sent a telegram to the French Government on this subject.

J. H. D. H.

No. 122.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 19.)

(No 32. Commercial. Ext.)

Tangier, November 10, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that M. Feraud, the French Minister, has proposed to take joint action with me in the negotiation for the revision of the Convention of Commerce.

I informed M. Feraud, in reply, that a proposal of this nature must be referred by me to your Lordship.

I have communicated to my German colleague the proposal made by M. Feraud.

I have addressed a despatch to your Lordship containing full explanations as to what has passed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 123.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 25. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, November 28, 1885.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 31, Commercial, of the 10th instant, and in expressing my entire approval of your action, under the circumstances therein reported, with regard to the co-operation of the French and other foreign Representatives in the commercial negotiations now in progress between yourself and the German Representatives and the Moorish Government, I have to acquaint you that I shall

await any communication from the French Government before I address instructions to you on the subject. I am, however, in the meanwhile consulting the German Government, confidentially, with respect to this proposal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 124.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has reported that the French Minister has expressed a desire to act in concert with him and the German Plenipotentiaries in the commercial negotiations now in progress with the Moorish Government. I propose to await any communication from Paris on this subject before considering this proposal; but in the meanwhile I should be glad to learn confidentially the views of the German Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 125.

Memorandum communicated to the Marquis of Salisbury by Baron Plessen, November 30.

FROM the reports of the German Minister Resident at Tangier it appears that the French Minister there is desirous of furthering the German and English endeavours for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties with Morocco, and, if possible, to have the French Government join them.

The German Minister Resident is of opinion that a participation of France in the negotiations might be useful, and he thinks that it would be best if the French Government, without loss of time, adopted the German draft Treaty and instructed their Representatives in Tangier to recommend to the Morocco Government to accept the German proposals as being also in the interest of France.

The German Government share this opinion of their Representative.

No. 126.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 2.)

(No. 33. Commercial.)

Tangier, November 25, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 24, Commercial, of the 14th instant, transmitting copy of a despatch from the German Plenipotentiaries for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty with Morocco to Prince Bismarck, complaining of delays on the part of the Moorish Government, and directing me to make such suggestions to the Moorish Government as I might think expedient, with the view to prevent further delay in the German negotiations.

On the receipt of your Lordship's instructions I called on M. Testa to inquire whether he had received any communication from the Court in reply to the various letters which had been addressed to the Vizir on this subject.

He informed me that he had not received any reply regarding the appointment by the Sultan of a Moorish Plenipotentiary, but that the Vizir had addressed him a letter making known the intention of the Sultan to send an Envoy to Berlin to express the friendly sentiments which animate His Shereefian Majesty. M. Testa added that he had been much surprised and dissatisfied on receiving such a communication, without any reply having been given regarding the dispatch of the Plenipotentiaries to negotiate the Treaty, and that he had not concealed from Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres in an interview he had with that functionary, his extreme dissatisfaction.

This morning M. Testa called, and I communicated to him the translation of the letter, herewith inclosed, I have addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash in reply to his note of the 24th ultimo, announcing the appointment of the Commissioners for treating with me regarding the revision of the Commercial Convention of 1856, who have not yet arrived, though I am told by Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres they are *en route*.

I have further addressed a private letter to one of the Sultan's Secretaries, Cid Emfadl Garneet, who, it is reported, has lately been appointed Vizir or Director of Foreign Affairs at the Court, and I transmitted to him a copy of my letter to Cid Mohammed Bargash. I have taken this step, as I have found the latter functionary, since his withdrawal to Rabat, extremely neglectful in attending to the representations I have had occasion to make through him to His Shereefian Majesty regarding the interests of British subjects.

I am personally acquainted with Cid Emfadl Garneet, who was the officer selected by the Sultan, on my visit to the Moorish Court in 1882, to take note of the representations I had to submit to His Shereefian Majesty, and to communicate his replies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 126.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Bargash.

(Translation.) *Safar* 16, 1303 (*November* 24, 1885).

YOUR letter dated the 15th Moharram (24th October), announcing the appointment by His Shereefian Majesty of Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada as Commissioners to negotiate the revision of the Convention of Commerce, reached me on the 30th October, but up to the present date these functionaries have not arrived here, though I was informed yesterday by Cid Mohammed Torres that they are *en route* and are daily expected.

You have, no doubt, been apprised that in the negotiation which is about to be commenced for improving commercial relations with Morocco, the German Plenipotentiaries, M. Testa and M. Weber, and I have received instructions from our respective Governments to act in concert, as the object they have in view, and, I may add, the interests of Morocco, of Germany, and of Great Britain in this matter are identic, namely, the development of trade and of the rich agricultural resources of this country by the removal of restrictions, tending thereby, as it is confidently expected, to promote the welfare of His Shereefian Majesty's subjects, to increase the revenue of His Majesty's Treasury, and to strengthen also the ties of friendship and good-will, not only between the three Governments and people, but also with all other Powers who have commercial relations with Morocco.

I have just received a communication from Her Majesty's Government, by which I learn that the German Government has expressed its surprise and dissatisfaction at the unaccountable inattention their Plenipotentiaries have experienced to the several communications that they have addressed to the Shereefian Court since the middle of October last, announcing their arrival to negotiate a Treaty of Commerce, and requesting that Plenipotentiaries should be sent by His Shereefian Majesty without loss of time.

I trust that His Shereefian Majesty, in his wisdom, will have already appointed His Majesty's Plenipotentiaries to proceed at once to Tangier, unless His Majesty has empowered the above-mentioned Commissioners who have been named to treat with me to act as His Majesty's Plenipotentiaries in the negotiation to be entered upon by the German Ministers, which arrangement, I feel persuaded, would be acceptable to both Governments.

In conclusion, I have to point out in a friendly manner that though I am persuaded His Shereefian Majesty, who has received proofs on various occasions of the friendly sentiments which animate His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany, would never have had the slightest intention of giving grounds for dissatisfaction, and that the apparent inattention has not, therefore, proceeded from any unfriendly motive, yet I will not conceal from you that the action of His Shereefian Majesty's Government in this matter has produced, with good grounds, a most unfavourable impression in the minds both of the German and British Governments, as according to diplomatic usage, and the international courtesy which guides foreign Powers in their intercourse, such inattention and delay would be considered, to say the least, as most irregular. I request you to lose no time in forwarding to His Shereefian Majesty this communication, and that you inform His Majesty that in making it I am actuated by the most friendly feelings towards His Shereefian

Majesty, and solely with a desire to prevent any misunderstanding between His Majesty and the powerful and friendly German Government.

The immediate appointment of the Plenipotentiaries by His Shereefian Majesty, with instructions to facilitate the negotiation and to meet with good-will the propositions which may be made, will be the best course to pursue to efface any unfavourable impression left on the minds of the German Government and their Plenipotentiaries in Tangier.

Peace.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 127.

Mr. Brooke to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(*Received December* 2.)

66, *Lancaster Avenue, Fennel Street, Manchester, December* 2, 1885.

My Lord,

I BEG to inclose a cutting from the "Manchester Courier" of this day's date, headed "A Voice from Morocco," and trust your Lordship will pardon the liberty I have taken in so doing. I am satisfied in my own mind that where the commerce of England is suffering, it only requires the case in point to be brought to your Lordship's knowledge for prompt steps to be taken to remedy it as far as possible.

Trusting the Conservatives may be victors in the present elections,

I am, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES JNO. BROOKE.

Inclosure in No. 127.

Extract from the "Manchester Courier" of December 2, 1885.

A VOICE FROM MOROCCO.—The following has been addressed to us for publication:—

"To the Free and Independent Electors of Great Britain.

"Fellow-countrymen,

"In the heat of party strife, and the excitement incident to a general election, pause a moment to listen to the voice of your fellow-countrymen sojourning in the Empire of Morocco—'the China of the West,' as it has been not inaptly termed—one of the finest and most interesting countries upon the face of the earth, and in whose highest interests England is very deeply concerned. We are but a mere handful of Englishmen here, but we possess all the enthusiasm, patriotism, and indomitable perseverance of our race, those qualities which have laid the foundation of England's greatness, and carried civilization and commerce to the remotest regions of the earth. We are but few, because, for some inexplicable reason, our Rulers have chosen hitherto to discourage, by any and by all means in their power, the settlement of Englishmen in Morocco, and the good people of England have been kept in a state of the profoundest ignorance as regards the internal affairs of this interesting Empire. The Moors have been falsely represented as a ferocious, morose, intractable, lying, indolent, untrustworthy people, and held up to the contempt and derision of the whole civilized world.

"My fellow-countrymen here have done me the honour to elect me their spokesman, and I may almost say that the Moors have also, for I am daily urged by them to use my utmost influence to induce our Government to co-operate with their Sultan in forming a stable and just Administration, so as to put an end to perpetual strife and warfare, and thus remove the accumulated wrongs of ages. For more than half a century England has held paramount influence at the Court of Morocco, and how has she used it, or misused it? With shame and confusion it must be confessed that she has ignored alike her duty and her interest, and her policy has tended to rivet more firmly the fetters which bind millions of a noble race in a thraldom more appalling than it is possible for you who 'dwell at home at ease' even to conceive. The Moors are a very religious and conservative people, and believing implicitly in the infallibility of their priestly Sovereign, a lineal descendant of their prophet Mahomet, render him a superstitious allegiance akin to veneration. Their successive Sultans have looked to England for help and guidance; but England's influence,

which might have been used for the spread of peace, plenty, and contentment, has been perverted to the promotion of superstition and misrule, retarding the progress of civilization under the plea of preserving the *status in quo*, and the Treaties of Commerce with foreign nations, which have been mainly drawn, or influenced, by English Representatives, have been worded so ambiguously as to deceive the public and to render them absolutely valueless. Take, for instance, the clauses relating to the purchase of land by Englishmen. The principal is granted, with the reservation that purchases can only be effected with the sanction of the so-called 'Moorish authorities,' and before that can be obtained, the conveyances must be drawn by Moorish official notaries, in the Moghrebin language. How does this act? The notaries are mostly warned not to draw up such documents, and if they inadvertently do so, they are almost sure to find themselves very soon afterwards in a loathsome dungeon, or otherwise effectually punished; but, nevertheless, Moorish land-owners come forward in great numbers to offer their lands to Englishmen, and, if they are baulked in their attempts to sell, they often propose very unequal terms of partnership in order to secure the co-operation of Englishmen and others in extending their cultivation, and in developing the vast dormant resources of their country, and at the same time securing to themselves and their families the result of their labours.

"The cry of the poor Moors to England and to the civilized world, is an exceeding bitter cry, and woe to us if we of England neglect it. The country is farmed out in districts to officials who have complete control over the lives and property of the inhabitants, both rich and poor, and in this land the possession of money or other property, beyond the bare means of subsistence, is often treated as a crime. People are frequently subjected to the most awful tortures, even to death, to induce them to disclose their hidden treasures of money or grain, and the result is that they have to co-operate in communities or tribes in order to defend themselves and their homes as best they can.

"When they rise against their rapacious Kaids they are held to be in rebellion against their Sultan, while, in reality, they desire to be loyal and faithful to him.

"Many of the Kaids are said to be sustained in their positions by the influence of European Legations, and we are informed that the Sultan is often deterred from acting upon his own judgment for fear of incurring the displeasure of these Christian Legations. The Moors inform us that their Sultan is a humane and just man, sincerely desirous of promoting the welfare and happiness of his people, and they think that if he could only rely upon the support of England he would soon effect substantial reforms.

"The inhabitants of Morocco, as well as the British colony, appeal to you for help, and we trust you will not disdain this earnest, united appeal to your sympathies and to your interests.

"The manufacturers of England are anxious to find new markets for their productions, which the Moors are equally anxious to take in exchange for their grain, minerals, and manufactures, for which there is ever a ready market in England.

"There are no roads, and very few bridges, in this Empire, and the transport of grain, charcoal, &c., by land is difficult, expensive, and almost impossible in the rainy season, when there is the greatest demand for these articles in Tangier, where they are often more than double the prices that can be obtained in the coast towns, while the transport by water coastwise in English vessels is easy, expeditious, and cheap.

"All foreign subjects of every nationality except English are freely allowed to purchase their supplies down the coast and bring them here by water, while the British Representative refuses the same privileges to Englishmen, who can do nothing without their Minister's order, notwithstanding that the Treaties with England expressly stipulate that British subjects shall be entitled to the privileges and immunities of the "most favoured nation."

"The French, German, and Spanish Governments are fostering trade between their respective countries and Morocco, and rendering every possible assistance to their countrymen in forming colonies here, while English colonists are depressed, discouraged, and thwarted by those who are paid handsomely out of the public Treasury to watch over and foster British interests.

"Fellow-countrymen, we demand fair play, and we look to you to speak for us through your respective Parliamentary Representatives to Her Majesty's Government, and require that this unsatisfactory state of things be remedied without delay.

"Within the last few years the first and only printing press in this great Empire has been brought here by an enterprising British subject, and has already effected great and beneficial changes, but the feeble voice of the press has been recently stifled by, or in consequence of, misrepresentations made by British officials to the Moorish Government, who, we have reason to believe, have been induced to act contrary to their own judgment and inclination.

"The foreign newspapers justly charge England with upholding barbarism and slavery in Morocco, and the poor slaves of Barbary have great reason to complain against England, whose inconsistency in the matter of slavery is inexplicable. Slaves have been conveyed in British vessels to foreign markets. The press raised its voice against this connivance at the iniquitous traffic in human beings, and this is one of the reasons why the press has been gagged.

"Englishmen! we appeal to you to wipe off this stain from our national flag, and speak out as you can and ought to speak upon this subject, and send us here a true Englishman to be our chief, our counsellor, and our guide—one to whom we can look up with respect and follow with confidence.

"Gibraltar draws her supplies of provisions chiefly from here, and would be comparatively useless to us if this place were in hostile hands, and we are in duty bound to our faithful allies to help them to make the best of the fair land which God has given them, and help them to rise to their proper position amongst the nations of the earth.

"(Signed on behalf of the British Colonists),

"Edward E. Meakin, *Elected Spokesman of the Colony.*

"*Tangier, November* 1885."

No. 128.

M. d'Antas to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(*Received December* 3.)

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi de Portugal a été informé que les Gouvernements de Sa Majesté Britannique et de Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Allemagne s'occupent de la révision des Traités de Commerce avec l'Empereur du Maroc.

Le Gouvernement Portugais poursuit des négociations pour un Traité avec le Gouvernement du Maroc, et il croit que si un accord s'établissait en ce moment entre le Portugal, la Grande-Bretagne, et l'Allemagne de grands avantages pourraient en résulter pour leur commerce.

Il serait donc à désirer que les Représentants du Portugal et de la Grande-Bretagne reçussent de leurs Gouvernements des instructions pour s'entendre et s'appuyer mutuellement dans leurs démarches auprès du Gouvernement du Maroc.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Le Roi de Portugal a fait au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Allemagne une communication semblable à celle qu'il charge le Ministre de Portugal à Londres de faire au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Londres, le 2 Décembre, 1885.

No. 129.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 27. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 3, 1885.

I APPROVE your proceedings in connection with the commercial negotiations now proceeding with Morocco, as reported in your despatch No. 33, Commercial, of the 25th ultimo.

I have communicated to Count Hatzfeldt a copy of your letter of the 24th ultimo to Cid Mohammed Bargash, and have added that you have taken steps to bring this letter, through another channel, to the knowledge of the Sultan of Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 130.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, December* 3, 1885.

WITH reference to the Memorandum communicated by Baron Plessen on the 4th ultimo, I have the honour to communicate to your Excellency a copy of a letter which

Sir J. D. Hay addressed on the 24th of last month to Cid Mohammed Bargash respecting the neglect of the Moorish Government to proceed with the negotiation of the German Treaty.* Sir J. D. Hay has taken steps through another channel to bring this letter to the knowledge of the Sultan of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 131.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 28. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 8, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 25, Commercial, of the 28th ultimo, I transmit herewith a copy of a further note which I have addressed to the German Ambassador respecting the co-operation of France in the commercial negotiations with Morocco.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 132.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

Foreign Office, December 8, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

BARON PLESSEN has stated that the German Minister Resident at Tangier is favourable to the co-operation of the French Minister in the negotiations now being conducted with Morocco, and that the German Government share the views of their Representative on the subject.

I consider this communication to be the answer to the note which I addressed to your Excellency on the 28th ultimo.

With regard to Baron Plessen's further inquiry as to the views of Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to observe that no communication has been received from the French Government, and that as the matter now stands, the proposal for French co-operation seems to be the expression of the personal wish of the French Minister at Tangier. It therefore appears to me that there is no objection to the British and German Ministers acting in concert, at their discretion, with the French Minister in this negotiation, but that unless the French Government brings the matter forward, it does not appear desirable to proceed further.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 133.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 29. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 9, 1885.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a Memorandum which has been communicated to me by the Portuguese Minister in London, relative to the desire of the Portuguese Government to take part in the commercial negotiations which are now taking place with Morocco.‡

I have thought it advisable to defer a definite answer to this proposition until I have learnt your opinion on the subject; and in making this proposal known to the German Ambassador, I have informed his Excellency that I have asked your opinion in regard to it. You will no doubt consult your German colleague in your answer to this despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* Inclosure in No. 126.

† No. 132.

‡ No. 128.

No. 134.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1885.

THE Portuguese Minister at this Court has made a proposal to me that the Portuguese Minister at Tangier should take part in the negotiations which the British and German Ministers are now conducting with the Government of Morocco. I have thought it advisable in the first instance to consult Sir J. D. Hay on the subject, who will no doubt ask the opinion of his German colleague. As soon as I receive a reply, I shall have the honour to address a further communication to your Excellency with respect to this proposal of the Portuguese Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 135.

Mr. Bourke to Mr. C. J. Brooke.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1885.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 2nd instant, inclosing a cutting from the "Manchester Courier," in which is contained a communication from Mr. Edward E. Meakin, respecting the position of British subjects in Morocco, and the disadvantages under which British trade is alleged to labour in that country.

I am, in reply, to state to you that the question of effecting improvement in the commercial relations between Great Britain and Morocco has for some time past engaged the attention of this Office, and that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier is doing all that he can in the matter.

I am, at the same time, to inform you that Lord Salisbury will cause inquiry to be made on the subject of Mr. Meakin's letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT BOURKE.

No. 136.

The Marquis of Salisbury to M. d'Antas.

THE Marquis of Salisbury presents his compliments to M. d'Antas, and begs to inform him that the Memorandum which he communicated on the 2nd instant relative to commercial negotiations with Morocco shall be duly considered.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1885.

No. 137.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 10.)

(No. 34. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 3, 1885.

THE Commissioners appointed by the Sultan to treat with me regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce, Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada, have at length arrived.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Cid Mohammed Bargash, which they presented to me this day, communicating the instructions they have received regarding the negotiation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 137.

Cid Mohammed Bargash to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.) 3 *Safar*, 1303 (*November* 11, 1885).

(After compliments.)

WE have already acquainted you that our Lord has informed us that Commissioners have been appointed to treat with you regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce, and they are Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada. They have received their orders on the subject, and will arrive at the same time as this letter. We trust you will receive them in your accustomed manner, and treat them as Commissioners coming from His Shereefian Majesty, for they are persons of position and trustworthy, who on that account have for a long time been, and still are, in the service of His Majesty.

The instructions they have received are to take note of the points in the revised draft which you recommend as being in accordance with the Convention of Madrid, and the Regulations that have arisen out of it.

With regard to other stipulations to be added or rescinded, reference must be made to the Sultan, for when you first asked that the Convention should be revised, His Majesty understood that you wished in the first place that the stipulations of the Convention of Madrid should be included in it, and that an increase in the Treasury receipts would result from the revision, and you explained to His Shereefian Majesty the advantages that would ensue.

In any case it is necessary that His Shereefian Majesty should be consulted about each new stipulation.

Peace.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BARGASH.

No. 138.

Mr. K. Murray to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(*Received December* 12.)

The London Chamber of Commerce, 84 *and* 85, *King William Street*, *London, December* 11, 1885.

My Lord,

THE London Chamber has, for some time past (*vide* this Chamber's letters to the Foreign Office of the 11th June, 1884, the 21st August, 1884, and the 9th June, 1885), shown an active desire to extend the commercial relations of this country with the Empire of Morocco. The Chamber has been urged in this direction, less perhaps, as a result of the present value of trade with Morocco itself, but principally from strong conviction of the future value of the trade which may be developed with Morocco, in the first instance, through Morocco with Central Africa; secondly, with the caravans which go southwards to, and even beyond, Timbuctoo; and, thirdly, more especially as a means of counteracting and compensating for, the action taken by the French in Senegal and other stations further south.

The geographical position of Morocco, situated as it is within only four and a-half days' sail from London, would enable this country, were the restrictions on the export of grain, cattle, minerals, fruit, farm and food produce generally abolished, to develop a trade with Western and Central Africa, the proportions of which it is impossible at the present moment to estimate. Morocco may thus, in many respects, be made as useful to this country as Algeria is to France.

Your Lordship is better aware than this Chamber can be of the negotiations which are being attempted by the Spanish, French, and German Governments, to obtain a hold upon the Trade. Knowing as this Chamber does, with much satisfaction, the preponderating position occupied by Sir John Hay, to the advantage of this country, in the estimation of the Moorish Court, and having every reason to believe that Sir John Hay personally strongly desires to negotiate such a Treaty, this Chamber is necessarily most wishful that every encouragement and assistance should be given to Sir John Hay by Her Majesty's Government, to enable him to carry out this most desirable, but probably difficult task.

This Chamber has recognized with pleasure the attention invariably given to the development of new markets and our Colonies, and we venture to think that no step could be more usefully taken in this direction than by opening up commercial relations with the Moorish Government.

The Chamber is afraid that, without some pronounced action of this kind by Her

Majesty's Government, there will be a danger of French influence in Northern Africa, such as has taken place in Algeria and Tunis, and is now believed to be attempted in Morocco itself.

Lastly, this Chamber would allude, although perhaps coming less strictly within the sphere of its action, to the strategical importance of Morocco and Tangier in their position opposite to Gibraltar. The Chamber, which naturally attaches paramount importance to the maintenance of open communication with India, feels that unless our predominant position at the Court of Morocco is maintained, and if possible strengthened, the country will largely lose the value which now attaches to the chain of British stations in the Mediterranean at Gibraltar, Malta, and Cyprus, and the Red Sea stations.

For these various reasons the London Chamber would be highly gratified if Her Majesty's Government would take immediate and active steps to promote the negotiation of a new Treaty of Commerce on the most modern lines, and also to establish entire freedom for the export of native produce with the Moorish Government.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) KENRIC B. MURRAY, *Secretary*.

No. 139.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(*Received December* 15.)

(No. 35. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Tangier, December* 8, 1885.

YESTERDAY the first meeting of the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan to treat with me regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce took place.

Having informed them that I had received instructions from Her Majesty's Government to act in concert with the German Plenipotentiaries in the negotiation regarding the additions or alterations to be introduced with the view of removing existing restrictions on trade, and more especially regarding the alteration of the Tariff of duties on exports, and, therefore, that I proposed to defer the discussion of these questions until the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan to negotiate a general Treaty and Convention of Commerce with the German Plenipotentiaries arrived, in order that the propositions that would eventually be put forward for the removal of restrictions or modification of the Tariff, should be identic on the part of the German and British Plenipotentiaries; and on the other hand, that there should be no divergence of opinion expressed by the Sultan's Commissioners in these questions, it was necessary that our action should be collective and not separate.

They replied that as they had no instructions from the Sultan or from Cid Mohammed Bargash to act in concert with the Commissioners appointed to treat with the German Plenipotentiaries, or even to be present at any meeting, in which the latter might take part in a discussion, they could not venture to attend at any collective meeting or to express any opinion on propositions emanating from the German Plenipotentiaries. After some discussion they said that though they understood my arguments, and considered them conclusive, they could not venture to transgress the instructions they had received, without especial orders from the Sultan or Cid Mohammed Bargash.

Under these circumstances, after consultation with the German Plenipotentiaries, I addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash a letter, of which I have the honour to transmit a translation, and they have also written to that Minister in the same sense.

Whilst awaiting a reply, and the arrival of the Commissioners sent to treat with the German Plenipotentiaries, I intend, as has been suggested by the latter, to endeavour to come to an understanding with the Commissioners, Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada, regarding the additions and alterations to be introduced into the Convention, which do not refer to the Tariff or like important questions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 139.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohamed Bargash.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) *December* 8, 1885 (30 *Safer*, 1303).

CID MOHAMMED LEBADI and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada, the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan to treat with me regarding the revision of the Convention of Commerce delivered to me your letter of the 3 Safer (11th November), making known the instructions they have received, and that a reference would have to be made to the Sultan, when a stipulation is to be added to, or abrograted from, the Convention of 1856.

This morning a meeting took place with the Commissioners, and I informed them that as I had received instructions from Her Britannic Majesty's Government to act in concert with the German Plenipotentiaries in the said commercial negotiation, and as I was informed that the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan to treat with the German Plenipotentiaries were daily expected, it would be advisable, as the interests of the British and German Governments in this matter were identic, that the negotiation should be conducted collectively and not separately, so that no divergence should arise either in the putting forward of propositions or in their acceptance or rejection by the respective Commissioners.

Cid Mohammed Lebadi and Cid Abd-el-Hafeed Barrada replied that, as they had neither received instructions to act in concert with the Commissioners appointed to treat with the German Plenipotentiaries, nor were they authorized to listen to or discuss any propositions or observations of the latter, they could not take part in any collective meeting that might be arranged for the conduct of the negotiation.

I informed them that the Moorish Government had been made acquainted with the instructions received by the German Plenipotentiaries and myself to act in concert, and I read to them the letter I addressed you on the 16th Safer (24th November), of which I added a copy, was now in the hands of the Sultan. I pointed out that the joint conduct of the negotiation in the manner proposed was most desirable on every account, and was especially advantageous to the Moorish Government and conducive to their interests, preventing the embarrassment and perplexing questions which would arise if the Commissioners acted separately, as it may happen that an understanding come to by the Commissioners appointed to treat with me should not be agreed to by the other Commissioners, or *vice versâ*.

They replied that they thought my arguments were very reasonable and even conclusive, but declared that they required distinct instructions on the subject from you.

Under these circumstances I send this courier express, and have to request that if you consider His Shereefian Majesty will approve of the negotiation regarding the Commercial Convention, especially as regards any alteration of the Tariff, being conducted collectively, that you dispatch at once instructions to the Commissioners to that effect. Should you, on the other hand, be indisposed to give such orders to the Commissioners, I have to request that you lose no time in transmitting this letter to the Court to urge that a reply be sent by express.

There has been already so much procrastination in this negotiation that it is urgent that no further delay should occur.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 140.

Minutes by Sir J. Pauncefote and Mr. Kennedy.

THE French Ambassador called to state that his Government are quite willing to join in the negotiations for the new Treaty, and are awaiting a communication from Lord Lyons, which they understand is about to be made on the subject.—J. P. 14/12/85.

There has not been any intention of making a communication on the subject to the French Government. The French Minister at Tangier expressed the wish, as his personal desire, to join in the Anglo-German negotiations with Morocco, and said he would write to Paris on the subject. The Germans have no objection. We did not desire, but do not object to French action. Under the circumstances, it was not meant to take any step at Paris.

Accept M. Waddington's statement as the French proposal to join in the negotiation, and prepare drafts accordingly.—C. M. K.

J. P. *December* 22.
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No. 141.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, December* 12, 1885.

WITH reference to my note of the 3rd instant, I have now the honour to transmit to your Excellency a copy of the note which Cid Mohammed Bargash has addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, announcing the arrival of the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan of Morocco to negotiate the revision of the Commercial Convention with Great Britain.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 142.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 30. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 14, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of correspondence with the London Chamber of Commerce on the subject of commercial negotiations with Morocco.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 143.

Mr. Bourke to Mr. K. Murray.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 14, 1885.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, and I am to state in reply, for the information of the London Chamber of Commerce, that the Sultan of Morocco has at length acceded to the desire of Her Majesty's Government that he should name Commissioners to negotiate with Sir J. D. Hay the revision of the existing Commercial Convention between Great Britain and Morocco. A copy of your letter will be sent to Sir John Hay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT BOURKE.

No. 144.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 31. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 19, 1885.

I HAVE learned with satisfaction from your despatch No. 37, Commercial, that you have received the support of the French Minister at Tangier in your application to the Moorish Government for a Concession to be granted to the Eastern Telegraph Company for the laying of a cable from Tangier to Gibraltar; and I inclose, for your information, a copy a letter which I have caused to be addressed to Mr. John Pender upon the subject.‡

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 145.

Verbal Communication made by Baron Plessen, December 22.

(Confidential.)

WITH reference to Lord Salisbury's note of the 9th December respecting the admission of Portugal to the negotiations with Morocco—

From a report of the German Delegates at Tangier, dated the 12th November, it

* Inclosure in No. 137. † Nos. 138 and 143. ‡ To Mr. Pender, December 19, 1885.

would appear that they do not, for various reasons, consider a joint action of all the foreign Representatives in Morocco opportune. The German Government hesitate, therefore, to accede to the wish of the Portuguese Government, which has also been made known in Berlin. They suppose that Sir J. D. Hay will share the opinion of the German Delegates and will report accordingly. The Imperial Government would like to be informed of the views of Her Britannic Majesty's Government on the application of Portugal, and will defer their answer to the Portuguese Minister at Berlin until they have received a reply from the English Government.

No. 146.

Verbal Communication made by Baron Plessen, December 22.

THE German Minister resident at Tangier was on the 17th instant instructed that, as the German Delegates thought a co-operation of France in the negotiations with Morocco might, under certain circumstances, be useful, the Imperial Government would have no objections against such a co-operation. But before giving final instructions an application of the French Government would have to be awaited, no application having been made up to now. The German Minister Resident was therefore to confine himself to receive, in concert with his English colleague, who would be similarly instructed by his Government, the overtures and wishes of the French Representative in a friendly and obliging manner.

No. 147.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 32. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

Sir,

I APPROVE your proceedings with respect to the revision of the Commercial Convention with Morocco, as reported in your despatch No. 35, Commercial, of the 8th instant.

I inclose, for your information, a copy of the note, in which I have communicated to Count Hatzfeldt the substance of your above-mentioned despatch.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 148.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 33. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 8th instant, I now transmit, for your information and guidance, copies of notes which I have addressed to the Ambassadors of France and Germany at this Court, relative to the co-operation of the French Minister at Tangier in the commercial negotiations with Morocco, which are now being conducted by yourself and the German Representatives.†

I have to request that you will make known to the German Representatives the substance of the inclosed papers; and, after consultation with them, that you will acquaint M. Féraud with the present position of the commercial negotiations, and then proceed in regard to them in concert with the Representatives of France and Germany.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* No. 151.

† Nos. 152 and 153.

No. 149.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 34. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 29, Commercial, of the 9th instant, respecting the desire of the Portuguese Government to take part in the commercial negotiations now in progress with Morocco, I have to inform you that a verbal communication to the following effect has been made, confidentially, by the German Embassy.

It appears from a Report of the German Delegates at Tangier, dated the 12th ultimo, that they do not consider that a joint action in these negotiations of all the foreign Representatives in Morocco would be opportune. The German Government hesitate, therefore, to accede to the wishes of the Government of Portugal, which have been made known at Berlin as well as in London. They suppose that your opinion will coincide with that of the German Delegates in this matter; and, in asking for an expression of the views of Her Majesty's Government, the German Government state that they will defer their answer to the Portuguese Minister at Berlin until they have received this statement of the views of Her Majesty's Government.

I shall await your Report on the subject before I communicate further with Count Hatzfeldt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 150.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 35. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 33, Commercial, of this date, respecting the co-operation of the French Minister at Tangier in the commercial negotiations now in progress with the Moorish Government, I have to inform you that a verbal communication to the following effect has been made by the German Embassy. It appears that the German Minister Resident at Tangier was instructed on the 17th instant that, as the German Delegates thought that the co-operation of France in these negotiations might, under certain circumstances, be useful, the German Government would have no objections to this course. Before, however, giving final instructions, the German Government were of opinion that an application by the French Government should be awaited, no communication to this effect having been made. The German Minister Resident was therefore directed to confine himself in the meanwhile to receive, in concert with his English colleague, who would be similarly instructed by his Government, the overtures and wishes of the French Representative in a friendly and obliging manner.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 151.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

WITH reference to my notes of the 3rd and 12th instant, I have now the honour to inform your Excellency that Sir John Drummond Hay has arranged with the Moorish Commissioners appointed to negotiate the revision of the Commercial Convention with Great Britain, that the general subject of the additions and alterations to be made to the Convention shall be first discussed between them; and that the discussion of Tariff questions shall stand over in order to be treated in connection with the German commercial negotiations.

I beg to forward, for your information, a copy of a note which, after communication with the German Representatives, Sir J. Drummond Hay addressed on the 8th instant to Cid Mohammed Bargash.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* Inclosure in No. 139.

No. 152.

The Marquis of Salisbury to M. Waddington.

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

THE communication which your Excellency was good enough to make a few days since that the French Government would be willing to join in the commercial negotiations with Morocco, which are now being conducted by the British and German Representatives at Tangier, has been duly made known to me. I have now the honour to request that you will inform the French Government that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction their readiness to join in these negotiations. I have acquainted the German Ambassador with your announcement, and I have no doubt that it will be agreeable to the German Government.

I shall forward a copy of this note by the first opportunity to Sir John Drummond Hay, for his information and guidance. He has already informed me of the friendly co-operation he has received from the French Minister at Tangier on various commercial questions, and I feel assured that he will much value M. Féraud's co-operation in the pending negotiations for the revision of the Commercial Treaties between Morocco and the principal European countries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 153.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Hatzfeldt.

Foreign Office, December 23, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

THE French Ambassador at this Court a few days ago made known to me the desire of the French Government to take part in the commercial negotiations with Morocco, which are now being conducted by the British and German Representatives. I beg to inform your Excellency that I have accepted this proposal on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, and that I have stated that I would make it known to you, and that I entertain no doubt that it will be agreeable to the German Government.

I have also informed Sir John Drummond Hay, and have instructed him to communicate on the subject with the German Representatives, and then to make known to the French Minister the position of the commercial negotiations, and to proceed in concert with him as well as with the German Representatives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 154.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 24.)

(No. 38. Commercial. Confidential.)

Tangier, December 16, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 8th instant, transmitting a copy of a further note which your Lordship has addressed the German Ambassador respecting the co-operation of France in the commercial negotiation with Morocco.

I called on the German Plenipotentiaries, MM. Weber and Testa, and read to them your Lordship's despatch to Count Hatzfeldt, and inquired whether they had received any communication from Berlin regarding the proposed co-operation of the French Minister in this negotiation. They informed me they had not, and observed that, from the language held to your Lordship by Baron Plessen, when he stated that "the German Minister at Tangier is favourable to the co-operation of the French Minister," they do not suppose he can have received a copy of the despatch they had addressed to their Government on the subject. They then read to me passages in the draft of that despatch, in which they referred to the proposition made to me by M. Féraud to act in concert with them and me in this negotiation. The purport was as follows:—That they were inclined to object to the proposed co-operation of the French Minister, unless he would be disposed to accept

the draft of the Convention which had been prepared, and would engage not to put forward propositions for alterations or additions which might lead to discussions and differences; that, unless such an engagement was entered into, they thought it would be preferable that M. Féraud's co-operation should be limited to giving friendly counsels to this Government, by recommending that they should accede to the propositions which may be put forward for the removal of restrictions on trade. They informed me that M. Féraud had not spoken to them as yet on this subject, but that, should he do so, they would tell him, as I had done, that without instructions to that effect they cannot properly act in concert with him in the negotiation.

I concurred with the opinions expressed by MM. Testa and Weber, but reminded them of the language held to me by M. Féraud when he first proposed to act in concert with us,* and that he voluntarily had given me an assurance he would only follow our lead, and would be disposed to accept the draft of the Convention and support the propositions we might put forward. Of course, I said, this was only a verbal assurance; but as M. Féraud had repeatedly given proofs of his sincerity and good-will, I thought he would act up to his promises. Both M. Weber and M. Testa are on friendly terms with M. Féraud, and entertain, as I do, a favourable opinion of his desire to avoid differences with his colleagues. I told them that M. Féraud had sent me a message to-day, by a member of his Legation, to say that he had just received a communication from his Government, informing him that they had directed M. Waddington to communicate to your Lordship the desire of the French Government to act in concert with the German and British Governments in the commercial negotiation with Morocco, and that in such case I expected to learn that Her Majesty's Government (and I thought it very probable also the German Government) would accede to the wishes of the French Government. I went on to say that as I had experienced during the negotiation of the Treaty and Convention in 1856 considerable difficulty from the intrigues and covert opposition of my French colleague at that time, I thought it would be desirable, if our respective Governments were disposed to accede to the wishes of the French Government, that we should severally evince a friendly disposition to accept the co-operation of M. Féraud, and thus have him as a coadjutor instead of being an opponent. It is just possible, I added, if we were to take a different line, M. Féraud may suggest to his Government the advisability of entering at once into a separate negotiation for a Convention of Commerce between France and Morocco. In such a case, I said, the perplexity of the Sultan and his advisers in attending to the demands that might be put forward would impede the course of our negotiation. Moreover, I observed, as we have to make propositions for a reduction of the Tariff and the removal of other restrictions which I know are most distasteful to the Sultan, I thought it would have a good effect upon His Majesty's mind to learn that the Representatives of the three Great Powers were unanimous in pressing on his acceptance propositions for the removal of restrictions, and that no one of them would be disposed to give His Majesty the slightest support in resisting their recommendations. I added, however, that if I did not receive instructions from your Lordship, I should not enter into any further communication with M. Féraud upon the subject of the negotiation.

I informed MM. Testa and Weber that I should mention to your Lordship the purport of the passage they had read to me in the draft of their despatch. They approved of my doing so, but begged that I would give your Lordship to understand that, as Baron Plessen had made a statement to your Lordship which was not quite correct, they wished to avoid anything being said or written to the Ambassador which might lead Baron Plessen to suppose they had complained to me that he should have used such language.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 155.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 39. Commercial. Confidential.)

Tangier, December 19, 1885.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 29, Commercial, of the 9th instant, transmitting a copy of a Memorandum which has been communicated to your Lordship by the Portuguese Minister in London, relative to the desire of the Portuguese Government to take part in the commercial negotiation which is now taking place with Morocco.

* No. 141.

On the receipt of your Lordship's despatch I communicated it to the German Plenipotentiaries. They are both of opinion, and I entirely concur with them, that should the British and German Governments consent that the Portuguese Minister at Tangier, M. Colaço, take part in this negotiation, it might give rise to discussions and differences of opinion, which would be most prejudicial to the conduct of the negotiation, whilst certainly his joint action in submitting, for the consideration of the Sultan, the acceptance of our propositions, would not be of the slightest benefit.

I have known M. Colaço for many years, and am on very friendly terms, and hold him personally in esteem; but he is a man of a very undecided character, and on the most trivial questions is disposed to enter upon prolonged and futile discussions.

I learnt from M. Féraud yesterday, that he had received a telegram from Paris informing him that M. Waddington had come to an understanding with your Lordship that France should join Great Britain and Germany in this negotiation. I replied in friendly terms expressive of my satisfaction, adding, however, that I awaited your Lordship's instructions—which he admitted, also, were necessary—before making any official communication to the Moorish Government on this subject.

From my despatch No. 38 of the 16th instant, your Lordship will have learnt that the German Plenipotentiaries concur with me in thinking that it will be politic and desirable, under present circumstances, to waive objections to the admission of the French Minister to act in concert with us; for it is most important that he should be a coadjator and not an opponent, especially as M. Féraud reassured me yesterday that he had not the slightest intention of bringing forward propositions for the alteration of the draft of the Convention—the contents of which I gave him, confidentially, a general idea. His co-operation, therefore, will be, on the whole, beneficial.

With regard to the desire of the Portuguese Government to enter upon a Treaty with Morocco, I beg to suggest that they might be informed that, under present circumstances, when the Representatives of the three Great Powers are acting in concert, and as it is very probable that other Powers may put forward similar pretensions to that of Portugal, a number of Plenipotentiaries having probably each their own particular views and propositions to present, would lead to much embarrassment and protracted discussion; for whatever might be arranged with Portugal would have, I conclude, out of common courtesy, to be extended to other foreign Powers, should they make a similar application.

The Sultan will be distinctly told, as was done on the conclusion of the Convention of 1856, that whatever advantages to commerce or to the subjects of the British and German Governments are obtained in the revised Convention, will have to be ceded by His Majesty to the commerce and subjects of all other foreign Powers. It will, therefore, it appears to me, be for the better interest of the Portuguese Government to await the result of the negotiation and the signing of the Convention, and then to enter, if it be thought desirable, into a separate Treaty, wherein any especial stipulations which may be thought requisite for Portuguese interests, could be introduced.

It will always, however, be a matter for satisfaction to my German colleagues and to myself that M. Colaço or other foreign Representative should give friendly counsels to this Government in urging that they should accede to the wishes of the three Great Powers, in recommending the removal of existing restrictions on trade, and the reduction of duties on exports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—M. Féraud put into my hands this evening a telegram from his Government containing the foregoing information.

He also communicated it to M. Testa. We replied that as soon as we received instructions from our respective Governments, we should be most happy to act in concert with him in this negotiation.

J. H. D. H.

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END

No. 156.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 37. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 31, 1885.

I APPROVE your proceedings, as reported in your despatch No. 38, Commercial, of the 16th instant, with respect to the co-operation of the French Minister at Tangier in the commercial negotiations now in progress with the Government of Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

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